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A TWENTIETH CENTURY HISTORY OF HARDIN COUNTY OHIO

A NARRATIVE ACCOUNT OF ITS HISTORICAL PROGRESS
ITS PEOPLE AND ITS PRINCIPAL INTERESTS

By MINNIE ICHLER KOHLER
OF KENTON

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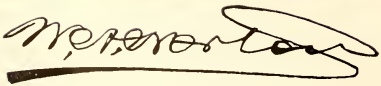

W. A. Norton.—One of Kenton's most prominent business representatives is found in W. A. Norton, the president of the Kenton Savings Bank, the treasurer of the Home Savings and Loan Company of Kenton, the president of the Kenton Gas and Electric Company and the vice president of the Kenton Telephone Company. The Home Savings and Loan Company is one of the substantial concerns of Hardin county, and Mr. Norton has been associated with it in his present capacity since its organization.

He was born at Marseilles in Wyandot county, Ohio, December 17, 1852, a son of Anson and Rachel (Hooker) Norton, and through Anson and Joel Norton, his grandfather and great-grandfather, he traces descent to Thomas Norton of Saybrook, Connecticut, son of Thomas of Guilford, England, who with his wife and children emigrated to America in 1639. The grandmother, Lucretia (Woodruff) Norton, daughter of David Woodruff, was descended from Mathew Woodruff, one of the early Connecticut colonists. Anson Norton, Jr., born at Sharon in Litchfield county, Connecticut, moved to Livingston, New York, in 1837, and ten years afterward, in 1847, he came to Marseilles, Ohio. He was a merchant during the greater part of his active life. In 1864 he located with his family in Kenton, where he continued his mercantile interests for a number of years, but finally turned his attention to the buying of wool and insurance, and was thus engaged until his death on the 14th of February, 1903. He was born in May, 1828, and on the 5th of February, 1852, in Marseilles, he had married Rachel Hooker, a daughter of Henson and Susanah (Young) Hooker, and a granddaughter on the maternal side of George Young, a Revolutionary soldier who lived to the remarkable age of one hundred and six years and was then laid to rest in Marseilles. His native state was Maryland. W. A. was the first born and only son of the children of Anson and Rachel Norton, and the four daughters are: Emma C., wife of Henry J. Miller, a shoe merchant in Kenton; Mary A., wife of B. F. Schultz of Kenton; Louie Bell, who became the wife of Elmer E. Gear and lived at Springfield, Ohio, until her death in February 1891, and she left one son, Anson William Gear, who resides with his uncle, W. A. Norton; and Maud, who died when only two years old.

W. A. Norton was a lad of eleven when the family home was established in Kenton, and thus from an early age he has been identified with its interests and upbuilding. He was the first boy to graduate from the Kenton public schools, graduating in the year of 1871, and then until the 15th of July, 1878, he was associated with his father in the dry goods business. At that time he accepted the assistant cashiership of the Kenton Savings Bank, while in 1886 he became the bank's cashier, and since 1905, has been its president. He is a Scottish Rite Mason and

a Republican in his political affiliations. He has often been called upon for committee work, but the greater part of his time is devoted to his business interests.. On the 5th of December, 1905, at Columbus, Ohio, he was married to Mrs. Lula Carpenter, widow of Eugene G. Carpenter, formerly of that city, and a daughter of Joseph McCormick of Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

Dr. H. S. Lehr, a retired educator, of Ada, Ohio, and the founder and ex-president of the Ohio Northern University of Ada, was born in Oldtown, Mahoning county, Ohio, March 8, 1838. He is a son of George and Saloma (Lesig) Lehr, both natives of Pennsylvania, the former born in Allentown, in 1795. At the age of seventeen years George Lehr enlisted in the war of 1812, serving as a fifer, and when he returned organized a company of militia, becoming captain and later brigadier general. The company attended the memorial exercises of John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. In 1837 they came to Oldtown, then in Trumbull but now in Mahoning county, Ohio, thence to Stark county and later to Wayne county. In the last-named county George Lehr engaged in weaving and manufacturing. He died in 1873, at the age of seventy-nine years. His father, Ulrich Lehr, was a native of Pennsylvania, and was a farmer. He enlisted three times for service in the American revolution; his grandson, Dr. Lehr, had a flag carried by him in his service, which he presented to the Ohio Northern University, where it is now. Ulrich Lehr carried this flag at the battles of Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth, where he was slightly wounded; he died in Pennsylvania. His father was a soldier in the German army, and Dr. Lehr has a furlough which was granted during his service, dated 1727.

George Lehr's wife was born in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, of German and English descent. They had twelve children, of whom Dr. Lehr is the eleventh. His boyhood days were spent in Ohio, and he began working at the age of eight years, making quills, and worked on a farm until the fall of 1854, when he began teaching, continuing until 1861, when he enlisted in Company E, Fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, but was rejected. He enlisted a second time in the Forty-second Ohio, but was again rejected. He enlisted in 1862 in Company G, Eighty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and in 1864 reenlisted in the One Hundred and Seventy-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served until May 20, 1865. He served in the ranks as a private.

At the close of the war Dr. Lehr read medicine about four months and began teaching in the winter of 1865, in Stark county, Ohio. In the spring of 1866 he traveled through the state in search of a suitable location in which to establish a school for the common people, and eventually founded what is now the Ohio Northern University, although it has been known by several other names, the first institution being a select school; it then became known at the Northwestern Ohio Normal School, then the Ohio Normal University. Dr. Lehr was president of this institution until July, 1902, when he resigned, and has since assisted in organizing a number of schools, although he has retired from active life.

Dr. Lehr is one of the prominent and successful educators of Ohio,

and although he has retired, his work is well remembered, and will leave a lasting impression. He installed many modern methods, and was untiring in his services in the cause of education. In 1891 he was superintendent of public schools and president of the normal, teaching seven hours a day. The largest annual enrollment during the time he was at the head of the school was three thousand three hundred and forty-nine. He has also served a long time as superintendent of a Sunday school, and takes an active interest in every movement for the public welfare and advancement. Dr. Lehr is a stanch Republican, and works hard in the interests of his party. He claims that the most just tax is a graduated income tax.

On October 30, 1866, Dr. Lehr married Albina Hoover, of Stark county, Ohio, where she was reared and educated. They have two daughters, Harriet M. and Sarah L. Dr. Lehr is affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic and the Masonic order. He is one of the best known men in Ohio in educational circles, and has had over thirty-two thousand students under his supervision while he was officiating as president of the University. He has done much to advance the cause of education in the state, and has been able to win and retain the confidence and esteem of all who have worked with him or studied under his direction. He is a man of rare intellectual ability and high attainments, whose high character and sincere manner have been generally recognized. He is a member of the Christian church.

Albert G. Ahlefeld was born at Ada, Ohio, June 25, 1859, where he lived until about twenty-one years of age, coming to Kenton in 1888, where he has since resided. He is the son of the late Nathan Ahlefeld and Celia (Wiley) Ahlefeld, the former born in Richland county December 16, 1834, and the latter in Worthington, Ohio, June 10, 1838.

Reinhart Ahlefeld was the founder of the family in America, coming to Richland county from the northern part of Germany about 1818. His ancestors were natives of Denmark who went to Germany about the sixteenth century. Reinhart Ahlefeld possessed a good German education and was a miller by trade. In Richland county he operated a mill and also carried on farming. He married Phoebe Young of Richland county who was of German descent, and all their children were born there. About 1849 he moved by wagon to Allen county, Ohio, afterwards coming to Hardin county and settling on a farm near Ada where he died at the age of seventy-six. To Reinhart and Phoebe (Young) Ahlefeld the following children were born: Christina Ahlefeld Moore, who lived after her marriage in Allen county and died there at the age of seventy-six; Martha Ahlefeld Melhorn who always resided in Hardin county after her marriage and died several years ago at Ada at the age of seventy-six; Nancy Ahlefeld Gilbert who lives in Burlington, Kansas; Sarah Ahlefeld Rockhill who lives in LeRoy, Kansas; Nathan Ahlefeld who lived in Ada and Kenton and died at Kenton July 9, 1902; and Peter and Jacob Ahlefeld, the former living in Cleveland, Ohio, and the latter in LeRoy, Kansas.

Nathan Ahlefeld was the father of our subject and he came to

Hardin county about 1849 with his parents where he ever afterwards resided till his death. He was educated in the common schools, and began his business career by working in a store in Ada. Afterwards he became a merchant, and also dealt in real estate and carried on farming. Nathan Ahlefeld was an active, enterprising, shrewd business man who was identified with many enterprises. His active mind seemed to grasp quickly the possibilities of any plan, and all his life he was singularly successful in his many undertakings. Solely by his own efforts he built up a comfortable fortune, and until the day of his death was interested in everything that helped the welfare of his native county. Though an ardent Democrat Mr. Ahlefeld did not aspire to hold office, serving his county but once in public capacity, that of county auditor in 1871. Governor James E. Campbell appointed him a member of the board of managers of the Ohio Penitentiary during his term of office, and Mr. Ahlefeld attended to the duties of this office, as he did everything else in his business career, well and faithfully. He moved to Kenton in 1881 and thereafter was a prime mover in many of the county seat's most prominent industries. He was married in Worthington, Ohio, June 18, 1856, to Miss Celia E. Wiley, and to them the following children were born: Ida Ahlefeld, who married J. F. Andrews and lives in Kenton, Ohio; Albert G., the subject of this sketch; Effie L. Ahlefeld, who married J. B. Andrews and lives in Goshen, Indiana; Anna who died at Ada, Ohio, aged two years; and Corrinne Ahlefeld who is the wife of Curran Flanagan the editor of the *Kenton Democrat*. Mrs. Celia (Wiley) Ahlefeld is of Welsh descent, the founder of her family in America being Samuel Wiley who moved from Wales to Snowhill, Maryland about the year 1765 and became a Revolutionary soldier. His wife was of Spanish descent and they had several children. One of these, Dr. Isaac Wiley, the father of Mrs. Ahlefeld, located in Worthington, Ohio, and there practiced his profession many years. Dr. Isaac Wiley married Eliza Lewis in Worthington, Ohio. He died at the advanced age of eighty-two at the residence of his son-in-law, Nathan Ahlefeld, in Ada, Ohio. Upon coming to Kenton Nathan Ahlefeld built a handsome and substantial residence on North Detroit street, and engaged in farming and the real estate and banking business. He died July 9, 1902. His widow survives, and lives in the homestead with her daughter Mrs. J. F. Andrews.

Albert G. Ahlefeld was educated in the public schools of Ada, and spent two years at the Brothers' School, a Catholic Institution of Dayton, Ohio. For some years he engaged in farming near Ada, but afterwards moved to Kenton where he now has many business interests. He was associated with his father in the real estate business during the life of the latter, and now conducts a loan and real estate office in partnership with Mr. J. F. Andrews. Under the second administration of Cleveland he was postmaster of Kenton, and this is the only office to which he has ever aspired, though an active Democrat and interested in local and national political issues. He was appointed postmaster April 1, 1894 and served four years in this capacity. In 1904 he helped organize the Crystal Ice and Cold Storage Company, one of the most flourishing

of Kenton's enterprises, and is at present vice president of the company and one of the directors. He was one of the organizers of the Scioto Sign Company and was for some years a director in this concern. In July, 1904 he helped organize the Commercial Bank of Kenton and he is now vice president of this institution and one of the directors. In the same year that the bank was organized he built the handsome, pressed brick building at the southeast corner of Detroit and Franklin streets which bears his name and in which his offices are located. In 1905 and 1906 he was president of the Kenton Commercial Club, and has always been interested in everything that pertains to the advancement of Kenton. And all the time he has been engaged in farming, owning large holdings in real estate in Hardin county.

Albert G. Ahlefeld was married in Kenton, Ohio, September 18, 1884, to Florence Ries, daughter of John and Katherine (Ichler) Ries. Mrs. Ahlefeld is a graduate of the Kenton public schools. Mr. and Mrs. Ahlefeld have two children: Katherine and Allan N. Another son, Nathan, was born August 25, 1887, and died April 28, 1892, at Kenton, Ohio. Miss Katherine Ahlefeld was educated in the Kenton public schools and spent three years at Notre Dame, Indiana, a celebrated school for young ladies. She also studied music in Philadelphia and Washington D. C., spending a year in each of these cities. Master Allan Neal is a student in the public schools of Kenton at present. Miss Katherine is a member of the English Lutheran church. Mrs. Ahlefeld is connected with the First Methodist Episcopal church of Kenton, and the family is prominent in social circles. Mr. Ahlefeld is a thirty-second degree Mason and an Elk. He and his family live in a beautiful modern residence on North Detroit street and are among the most prominent of the city's influential and respected residents.

General James Sidney Robinson, who died at his home in the city of Kenton, Hardin county, Ohio, on the 14th of January, 1892, was a member of one of the old and honored pioneer families of this section of the Buckeye state and he was of distinctive prominence in his connection with public and civic affairs in his native commonwealth. He was a valiant soldier of the Union during the Civil war, in which he rose to distinguished official preferment, and few men of the state were better known or more highly honored. He represented Ohio in congress and held other positions of trust and responsibility. His entire life was guided and governed by the highest principles and his career was one that reflected honor upon the state and the nation.

General Robinson was born in Franklin township, Richland county, Ohio, near the present city of Mansfield, on the 14th of October, 1827, and was the youngest of the four sons of Francis and Jane (Dickens) Robinson, both of whom were natives of England. His parents came to Ohio and took up their residence in Franklin township, Richland county, in 1817, and his father became one of the initial pioneers and substantial farmers of that county. The General was reared to the sturdy and invigorating discipline of the pioneer farm and early began to contribute his quota to its reclamation and development. His specific

educational advantages were limited to the common schools of the locality and period, but with an alert and receptive mind he profited largely through self-discipline, including a wide range of effective reading, and became a man of bright mental ken. At the age of sixteen years General Robinson entered the office of the *Richland Bugle*, where he gained his initial knowledge of the "art preservative of all arts." It has well been said that the training of a newspaper office is equivalent to a liberal education, and the career of General Robinson would seem to authorize fully this statement. In December, 1844, he entered upon an active apprenticeship in the office of the *Mansfield Jeffersonian*, whose title was later changed to the *Mansfield Herald*. There he delved into the mysteries of the printing business and familiarized himself with the intricacies of the same. In June, 1846, he left the office of the *Jeffersonian* and moved to Tiffin, Seneca county, where he became identified with the *Seneca Whig*. His connection therewith, however, was destined to be of short duration.

In 1844 a number of sturdy pioneer Whigs of Hardin county purchased a printing press in Cincinnati and, establishing the plant in Kenton, they became the publishers of a paper through which they exploited the cause of the Whig party. Like many another venture enlisting the co-operation of many men of as many different opinions, this enterprise did not prove a success. The paper was styled the *Weekly News* and its existence was turbulent and precarious for some time, owing to the owners becoming dissatisfied with the management of the business. They finally gained the information that connected with a paper in Seneca county was an independent and aggressive young exponent of the principles of the Whig party who had made a record which could not but beget objective confidence. In canvassing the situation and endeavoring to provide for the successful continuance of their newspaper venture, the owners of the same property wrote to General Robinson and tendered him the management of the business. Thus it was that shortly after Christmas of the year 1846 General Robinson came to Kenton and established his permanent home in Hardin county. With careful circumspection he viewed the field of his future labor, placed the equipment of the office in proper condition and changed the name of the paper to the *Kenton Republican* of which he thus virtually was the founder. The initial edition of the paper was issued on Wednesday, the 20th of January, 1847, and in its editorial colums was defined carefully the policy under which it was to be continued. It advocated the principles of the Whig party and its motto had a significant ring, being as follows: "Be just, and fear not." General Robinson soon made the *Republican* an effective exponent of the Whig cause as well as of local interests. He was indefatigable in his labors both as a writer and in the management of the technical details of the office, and even in these early years showed his wonderful command of terse and vigorous English and also a broad and well-forfeited view of public affairs. He soon became sole owner and editor of the paper and enlarged it to twenty-four columns. It continued to exert potent influence in this section of the state under his effective control until the

inception of the Civil war. When the Rebel guns thundered against the ramparts of old Fort Sumter, the altruistic patriotism of the young editor was aroused to responsive protest and he was among the first to respond to President Lincoln's call for volunteers. However, he continued proprietor of the Hardin county *Republican* until the 16th of September, 1864, when the plant and business were sold to L. T. Hunt.

There is much of interest attached to the brilliant and loyal career of General Robinson as a volunteer soldier of the republic. On the 19th of April, 1861, he enlisted as a private in the Fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry and was chosen as lieutenant of Company G, of which he later became captain. It was his to live up to the full tension of the great internecine conflict between the north and south, and he participated in many of the most memorable engagements marking the progress of the war. General McClellan commended him for meritorious service at Ridge Mountain, and he was appointed major of the Eighty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, later being promoted in turn to the office of lieutenant-colonel and colonel. In December, 1864, he was raised to the brevet rank of brigadier general, and in January of the following year he received regular commission in this rank. In the following March he was breveted major general. These statements bear their own significance indicating, as they do, the effective service rendered by him as an officer and his advancement was the diametric result of gallant and meritorious conduct on the field. General Robinson took an active part in the operations in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia under General Fremont, was in General Pope's disastrous campaign, including the second battle of Bull Run and with his command in the memorable battles of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg and in the campaigns in Georgia and the Carolinas. On the 1st of July, 1863, in the first day's fight at Gettysburg, he received a severe wound in the left shoulder and as a result of this injury he was confined to the hospital for a month, after which he was granted a furlough and sent to his home in Kenton, where he lay in a critical condition for several months. Upon recuperating his physical energies, General Robinson returned to the front and participated with his regiment in the battles of Cross Keys, Resaca, Ridge Mountain, Dallas, Peach Tree Creek, New Hope Church, Culp's Farm, Averysboro and Bentonville. He was with Sherman on the historic and triumphant march from Atlanta to the sea and finally proceeded with the victorious forces to the city of Washington, where he took part in the Grand Review at the close of the war. In later years it was a matter of pleasure and satisfaction to General Robinson that he was called upon to serve as president of the Ohio Commission that erected monuments to the soldier dead of this city on the battlefield of Gettysburg. General Robinson ever retained a deep interest in his old comrades in arms and was a prominent and honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic as well as of the military order of the Loyal Legion of the United States.

After the close of the war General Robinson retired to Kenton, and here his principal business interests thereafter were those of real estate. The following appreciative statements concerning the distinguished

subject of this memoir were written by one familiar with his career and are well worthy of reproduction in this connection: "Not alone as a soldier and as a public official did General Robinson serve his people. In civil life he was ever among the first to assist worthy public enterprises. His guiding and helping hand was found in the promotion of all measures that enhance the general welfare. Our railroads, pikes, ditches, public buildings, schools and churches all received his encouragement and aid. He was indefatigable in his efforts to secure an east and west railroad for Kenton. Finally when the Chicago & Atlantic Railroad, now a portion of the Chicago and Erie, came to be built, he was one of the contractors for the construction of this line between Kenton and Marion. He ever displayed an active interest in all affairs of the city and county and was always especially zealous in the promotion of farming interests.

At this juncture we shall turn briefly to the career of General Robinson as a public official, though the limitations of this article render impossible a detailed mention of the manifold services he rendered in this field. It may be said that his political and civil career was no less successful and brilliant than were his military exploits in defense of the integrity of the Union, and higher praise than this it is hardly possible to extend. Originally aligned as a stanch supporter of the cause of the old Whig party, he naturally transferred his allegiance to the Republican party, of which he became a member at the time of its organization and it is a matter of historical record that he served as secretary of the first state convention held by that party in Ohio. He was one of the most effective exponents of the party cause in his home state and his services were much in demand as a campaign speaker in Ohio and other states of the union. As a public speaker he had marked facility in the use of forcible and effective diction, was thoroughly fortified in his opinions and marshalled his arguments with masterful skill, so that he always was able to hold the attention of his audience and to impress upon it the cogency of his opinions and theories. He gained a reputation as one of the most effective campaign speakers of his day.

General Robinson served as clerk of the Ohio House of Representatives in 1855-6, and after his return from the war he received the appointment of assessor of internal revenue, of which office he continued the incumbent for several years. He was for some time chairman of the Republican State Central Committee and later was chairman of the Republican State Executive Committee. He filled the position of railroad commissioner for Ohio from January, 1880, to February of the following year. In 1880 there came to General Robinson well merited recognition of his party loyalty and zeal and of his distinctive ability, in that he was elected to represent the old Ninth District of Ohio in congress. This district comprised the counties of Hardin, Union, Morrow, Marion, Knox and Delaware. His first term in congress remarkably demonstrated the wisdom of his choice for this important office. In 1882 he was chosen as his own successor. He had the distinction of being the only man from Hardin county ever elected to sit

in congress. The official records of Ohio show that General Robinson also gave effective service as secretary of state, to which position he was twice elected. Concerning his public service, the following pertinent statement has been made: "He discharged all these trusts with rare fidelity and ability and demonstrated his fitness for even a higher station. His congressional career was of great value to his constituents and his Virginia military land bill won for him a national reputation. He was at all times a zealous champion of the farm and was ever loyal in protecting the interests of the old soldiers of the rebellion." He affiliated with the Episcopal church.

On the 28th of June, 1848, was solemnized the marriage of General Robinson to Miss Helen M. Spaulding of Marion, Ohio, who died in 1853, leaving one son, William S., who is now deceased. In the year 1855, November 8, General Robinson married Miss Hester A. Carlin, daughter of Honorable Parlee Carlin, of Findlay, Ohio, and she died September 8, 1907, in Kenton, where the two children, Parlee C. and Jane S. reside.

Measured by its beneficence, its recitude, its productiveness and its unconscious altruism, the life of General Robinson counted for much, and he stood as an honored member of the striking group of men whose influence in the social and economical life of the nation was of the most effective order. It is easy to attribute the elements of greatness to any man who has been in the least conspicuous in public affairs, but in the perspective of years each presentment assumes its true value and an unequivocal verdict may be rendered. The fair fame of General Robinson, the most distinguished figure in the history of Hardin county, rests on the firm basis of work accomplished and honors worthily won. In studying his clear-cut, sane, distinct character, interpretation follows fact in a straight line of derivation and his character was a positive expression of a strong and loyal nature. When he was consigned to the life eternal on the 14th of January, 1892, the people of his home city and county manifested a deep sense of personal bereavement and unbidden came the general and generous tributes of love, respect and honor. On the occasion of his funeral there were called to Kenton more distinguished men than were ever before drawn within its portals. After the religious services were concluded, the Honorable William McKinley, who was then governor of the state and who later became president of the United States, paid a short but earnest tribute to the dead soldier and citizen whose loss was thus deplored. Besides the governor, many other prominent men of the state were present at the funeral. The words of Governor McKinley are most consistently perpetuated in this record: "My Friends: I am here to join the friends and neighbors of General Robinson in paying my tribute of respect and affection to the memory of the deceased. I wish I had fitting words to command, but called at this trying moment, I can only say what the heart suggests. I knew him well. For four years he was my colleague in the National House of Representatives, and in those years I came to love, respect and honor him. He was a manly man, generous and open-hearted, a true friend and an honorable opponent. It is not Kenton and Hardin county only that are mourning around his bier. I feel his death a

personal bereavement, the loss of a true friend. The state, too, has suffered, he was an able and worthy public servant, a kind and indulgent husband and parent, pleasant and accommodating neighbor; he was an honored citizen of the state, one who served it faithfully and conspicuously in war and peace."

The following memorial, prepared by a special committee, consisting of the secretary of state, the lieutenant governor and attorney general of Ohio, was prepared shortly after his death and should be reproduced in this memoir of his life.

"James S. Robinson, a major general of the Union army, an ex-congressman of the United States and former railroad commissioner and secretary of state of Ohio, departed this life, ripe with age and honor, on Thursday, January 14th, 1892. In behalf of the great state which he served so faithfully in peace and war, we join with his family and countrymen in expressions of affection and condolence. Heroic almost to the sacrifice of his life in battle, wise in the councils of the nation, rugged and honest in the executive service of his state, he has closed a typical career of American manhood and patriotism. He will long be revered and remembered as a striking figure among the great spirits who have made Ohio first in peace and war and who have given to the country its greatest eminence and proudest characters. His name may well be recorded among Ohio's heroic dead. Of the age, and contemporaneous in defense of his country with Grant, Garfield, Sherman and Sheridan, he won honorable distinction in the field; while his public service was characterized by that fidelity to duty which has immortalized Giddings, Wade, Chase and Stanton. Strong in military and public life, he was stronger in those essentials of character that distinguished real manhood in family and personal relations. Honest, blunt, cordial and warm-hearted, those who knew him best loved him most, and with them we join in tributes to his memory."

Joseph Ichler was born February 12, 1844, in Cincinnati, Ohio where he lived until he was fifteen years old. He is the son of David and Margaretta (Barton) Ichler, the former born August 14, 1814, at Carlsrue, Baden, and the latter near Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, July 22, 1813. When about sixteen years old David Ichler, then an orphan, ran away from home, and located in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he learned the trade of shoemaker, later setting up in the shoe business for himself. He was married March 29, 1839, to Margaret Barton who had been left an orphan in Pennsylvania when quite young, and who had been brought to Cleves, Ohio, by a family named Leeper. To this union were born two children, Catherine, December 14, 1839, and Joseph, February 12, 1844.

David Ichler conducted a shoe store until his death August 12, 1856, which was caused by brain fever. He is buried in Spring Grove cemetery at Cincinnati, Ohio. On March 7, 1859, Mrs. Ichler and son Joseph came to Kenton, leaving the daughter Catherine teaching in the public schools of Cincinnati, she having begun teaching at the early age of sixteen. Later Catherine Ichler joined the family, and was married

February 23, 1860, to John Ries of Kenton by whom she had six children: Florence M., Alice W., David I., John J., George Henry and Milton C. Catherine Ichler Ries died June 27, 1875.

On coming to Kenton, Joseph Ichler went to high school for some months, and then learned the harness maker's trade with Goodin and Barnett. He started in the harness business for himself January 1, 1864, leaving it in charge of Mr. John Dean when he enlisted in the army. He served in Company G, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, enlisting March, 1864. At the close of the war he entered into a partnership with Arthur Dean in the harness business which lasted nine years. He was married September 30, 1866, to Annette Elizabeth Baker, daughter of Earnest Christian and Barbara (Pound) Baker in Kenton. Earnest C. Baker was the son of John Nicholas and Margaret (Elwert) Baker and was born in Gross Biebrow, Germany, October 15, 1810. Barbara Pound was born April 27, 1815, and was married to Earnest Baker at Hagerstown, Maryland, November 15, 1833. To them were born eight children as follows: Infant born and died 1834; Daniel, October 15, 1835; Martha, November 1, 1838; John, March 8, 1840; Susan, May 28, 1844; George, April 23, 1846; Annette Elizabeth, August 1, 1848; and Sarah, June 1, 1851. About 1847 Mr. and Mrs. Baker moved from Maryland to Kenton settling on a farm about two miles east of town. Mrs. Baker died November 14, 1854, and some years later Mr. Baker married Mrs. Dorothy Poelsing, a native of Germany. On January 15, 1862, Earnest Baker was killed in the old flouring mill that stood where Robinson and Gage's Planing Mill now stands, and on August 8, 1867, at the very same place and in the very same way his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Daniel Baker, was killed. Daniel Baker died March 4, 1866, leaving three small children. Martha Baker died April 16, 1899.

To Joseph and Annette E. Ichler were born the following children: May M., Minnie B., Ruah D., George David and Warren. May M. taught school for some years but is now the general delivery clerk in the Kenton postoffice. Minnie also taught school in the country schools and in Kenton, and then worked in the postoffice some years. She was married June 5, 1901, to Willis C. Kohler, the present postmaster of Kenton. Ruah was married January 28, 1892, to John W. Stevenson and to them have been born six children, five of whom are living: Frances Annette, Agnes Esther, Frank Joseph, Willis Warren and Ruby. Frank Joseph died January 31, 1902. For some years Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson lived on a farm near Kenton, and then moved to West Mansfield, Ohio, where he conducted a hardware store. Later he bought a store in Richwood, Ohio, and continued in the hardware business until 1907 when he bought a large farm in Delaware county where the family now live. Warren Ichler is a draughtsman and mechanic and is at present employed in Bloomington, Illinois. George David Ichler died April 6, 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Ichler also brought up a nephew, John H. Baker, son of Daniel and Sarah J. Baker.

For some years Joseph Ichler and family lived in Kenton but in April, 1874, they moved to the farm in Buck township where they now

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reside. On account of failing health Margaret Ichler went to live with her son in 1882 and died January 22, 1883, at his home. She is buried in Wolf Creek cemetery. Mr. Ichler was a railway mail clerk for some time during the administration of President Cleveland, but at the close of his term of service took up the occupation of farming, particularly the raising of fine fruits. He served for many years as a member of the board of education of Buck township and also was township trustee. At present he is one of the trustees of Grove cemetery. In politics he is an old school Democrat. For many years the family have been connected with the Wolf Creek Methodist Episcopal church.

Willis C. Kohler was born May 28, 1867, in Kenton, Ohio. He is the son of Jacob and Mary (Rufty) Kohler, the former born in Berne, Switzerland, March 16, 1824, and the latter in Ar Berg, Switzerland, March 31, 1825. At an early age Jacob Kohler was left an orphan, and when twenty years old he set out for America locating first in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where he worked in a flouring mill. He came to Kenton in a few years later where he ever afterwards lived. He was married April 15, 1855, in Kansas City, Missouri, to Mary Rufty, and they immediately afterward returned to Kenton taking up their residence in a small house where the East school building now stands. To them were born six sons: Frederick, John, Adolph, Henry, Willis C. and Edward.

Willis C. Kohler was educated in the public schools of Kenton both in English and German, leaving school at the age of seventeen to work in George Merriman's grocery. With but a short interval out of the grocery he continued his work there until appointed a clerk in the post-office under A. M. Rice, February 28, 1890. When city free delivery was established, January 1, 1891, he became one of the first letter carriers and continued in this position fifteen years. He resigned March, 1906, to become postmaster of the city, having been appointed by President Roosevelt, April 13, 1906, and took the office June 1, 1906, and is serving his second term in this capacity, having been reappointed by President Taft, March 25, 1910. Mr. Kohler has been quite successful in having many reforms in the service inaugurated in the local office, chief of which are the eight hour schedule for clerks and the improvements in the rural service. Since taking charge of the office he has succeeded in getting two new clerks, and two additional letter carriers and a new rural carrier.

Mr. Kohler was married April 26, 1893, to Miss Alice R. Watt of Findlay, Ohio, daughter of James and Mercy L. (Stackhouse) Watt, and to them were born two children: James Watt, March 11, 1894, and a daughter February 12, 1896. James Watt Kohler died August 4, 1894, and the daughter February 12, 1896. Mrs. Kohler died January 6, 1899, in Findlay, Ohio, while on a visit to her old home and is buried in Grove cemetery.

On June 5, 1901, Mr. Kohler was married to Minnie B. Ichler, daughter of Joseph Ichler, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume and Annette Ichler. Previous to her marriage Mrs. Kohler taught school in Buck township, beginning at the age of fifteen, and in the Grammar department of the Kenton schools for some years. On Janu-

ary 28, 1895, she was appointed a clerk in the Kenton postoffice by A. G. Ahlefeld, then city postmaster, and continued in that capacity till her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Kohler are members of the First Methodist Episcopal church of Kenton, and Mr. Kohler is a member of the official board of that organization. He is a member of Latham Lodge F. & A. M. and is a thirty-second degree Mason. Although not actively engaged in farming he owns a fine farm just south of the city on Taylor creek, and is interested in all agricultural matters. In politics he is a Republican.

John Wesley Thew.—Farmers of the present day carry on their work in a scientific manner, endeavoring to realize the maximum of profit from their land. Among the prominent and successful farmers of Hardin county, Ohio, is John Wesley Thew, owner and operator of a farm in Dudley township. Mr. Thew was born May 23, 1848, in Marion county, and is a son of Henry and Anna (Hayward) Thew, the former born in Lincolnshire, England, June 10, 1815. Henry Thew was a son of Richard, who settled in Richland county, Ohio, in 1825; his wife's maiden name was Botherniy. He left home for New Orleans, and was never again heard from. An uncle of Henry, William Thew, took charge of the family, and he died in 1883, at the age of ninety-two.

At the age of fifteen Henry Thew removed to the southern part of Ohio, where he learned the trade of shoemaker. He returned to Marion later, and in 1848 engaged in the shoe business in that place. Later he moved to the western part of Marion county, trading merchandise for three hundred and nine acres of land, then covered entirely by timber. Here he carried on farming and worked at his trade until a short time before his death, when he moved to Larue and retired. His demise occurred June 2, 1885. He was active in church work and was one of the first members of the old Montgomery log church (Methodist Episcopal), which he helped build. Though a Republican in his views he was not active in political affairs. His wife, who was born in 1820 and died at the age of fifty-two years, was a daughter of Isaac Hayward, and was born in England. She came with her parents to the United States as a girl, and they settled in Marion county, near Larue. Henry Thew and his wife had seven children, of whom five survive, namely: Mary A., wife of A. Cutting, of Kenton; Emma L., wife of C. W. Robinson, of Forest, Ohio; John W.; Eliza, wife of David Ward, of Hepburn; and Rob E., of Loraine.

Until twenty-two years of age John W. Thew lived with his parents, and when old enough began to help with the work of the farm. He received a good education in the public schools, and after reaching manhood bought some land, where he carried on farming until his marriage. He remained on the home farm five years and located in Dudley township, Hardin county, in 1883, bought his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres, on which he has made many improvements, and has erected a handsome modern residence. He carries on general farming and makes a specialty of stock-raising and dairying. He has now practically retired from active life, and is enjoying a well earned rest.

Mr. Thew is a faithful member of the Methodist church of Hepburn. He is an active Republican, held the office of township trustee one term and is now serving as committeeman. At present he is executor of the William Thew estate, now in course of settlement.

In 1873 Mr. Thew married Mattie Stewart, who was born in West Virginia, January 18, 1852, daughter of Joseph and Sarah (De Laurence) Stewart, the former, born in 1818, a farmer, died at the age of seventy-two years; the latter died in 1858. Mr. Stewart's father, David Stewart, was a native of Scotland who came to America as a young man and married Barbara Golden. The great-grandmother of Mrs. Thew was a sister to former President McKinley's mother. Joseph Stewart and his wife had several other children besides Mrs. Thew, and those living are one sister and one brother: William, a farmer at Forest, Ohio, and Sarah, wife of J. Wilson, a farmer of Michigan.

To John W. Thew and his wife children have been born as follows: Willis E., born July 26, 1875, married Milly Spracklin, and they have one child, Leroy; Milly Spracklin died and Willis married for his second wife a Miss Dell Van Arsdale; Lula Dell, born November 20, 1877, married Roy Verdon, of Marion county, and they have one child, Martha Evanda; Henry C., born May 31, 1879, married Laura Borth, and lives in Lima, Ohio, where he is a jeweler. They have two children, Harold C., and Mary Martha. Bertha E., born January 7, 1883, married F. Berbaugh, a farmer of Marion county, and they have one child Eurotis Wesley. Richard T., born December 14, 1887. Mr. Thew and his wife are both earnest members of the Methodist church. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias and she to the Pythian Sisters of Hepburn. They have a host of friends, and their home is the frequent scene of pleasant gatherings.

John Dille, a successful farmer of Hale township, Hardin county, was born April 28, 1864, on the old Dille homestead, and is a son of William and Mary (Curl) Dille. William Dille, who was also born on the homestead, was a son of Cyrus Dille, who came from Pennsylvania and settled in Hale township in 1843. He took up a farm of six hundred acres in what is now within the corporation of Mount Vietory. The place was then a forest but he eleared a small space where he erected a log cabin without roof or door, planted pumpkins, corn and beans, and returned to Pennsylvania for his family. Upon his return to the Ohio home he found the Indians had gathered his erop and stored it in his cabin. He never had any trouble with the Indians, being always friendly with them, giving and receiving favors. Cyrus Dille was a Whig but became a Republican upon the inception of that party. He married Susan Blair and there were nine children in their family. Mrs. Dille died in 1889, at the age of eighty-two, but her husband died in 1849, at the age of fifty-five.

After the death of his father William Dille remained on the homestead with his mother until his marriage. In 1860 he moved to the farm now occupied by his son, and lived in a log cabin until the present home

was built. He farmed one hundred acres which he inherited from his father, and here he lived until his death in 1872, at the age of fifty-two. He married Mary Curl and they had eleven children. She was a daughter of Elihu and Margaret (Reams) Curl of Mount Victory. They were pioneers of this county, and in 1850 Elihu Curl owned a hotel at Mount Victory. He was a carpenter by trade. Mrs. William Dille died in 1894, aged sixty-five years. Three of her children are living: John of this sketch; Ross, a farmer of Huntsville, Ohio; and Elizabeth, wife of J. McGinnis.

John Dille received his education in the public schools, and then worked for his father on the farm until the time of his marriage. He then began farming the old homestead, where he has since continued with splendid success. He is an enterprising, wide-awake farmer, who makes the most of his opportunities. Politically he is a Republican and actively interested in public affairs, now holding the office of township trustee. In 1886 he married Della, daughter of F. W. and Rose (Reynold) Summers, retired farmers of Hale township. Mrs. Dille was born April 28, 1867. The following children have been born to John Dille and wife: William, born in 1887; Amy Lanora, in 1888, living at home; Myrtle R., born in 1891; Mary Rose, in 1894; and John Erwin, in 1902. William, who lives with his father and assists in carrying on the home farm, married Flora, daughter of George and Mary (Harple) Battles, and they have one child, Oren.

Irvin H. Harvey, a successful farmer and a member of a family that is well known in Hardin county, was born on the homestead in Dudley township, September 23, 1862, and is a son of Alonzo and Rachel (Ballinger) Harvey. Alonzo Harvey was a native of Vermont, born in August, 1819, in Woodbury, and when a young man he engaged in teaching school. He moved to Ohio and there taught during the winters and worked on a farm during the summers until his marriage, July 7, 1844, when he settled in North Greenfield, Logan county. Six years later he removed to a farm near West Mansfield and for ten years was engaged in brick making as well as farming. In 1859 Mr. Harvey located in Mount Victory, where he lived a year while he was clearing his farm, and in 1860 he settled on his land. He became a successful farmer, and in 1879 retired from his farm and moved to Kenton, where he and his son opened a general store. Two years later the father sold his interest and retired from active life. Mr. Harvey was an earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal church and an active worker for its interests. For many years he was engaged in selling family Bibles, and in this connection became well known in Hardin county. He was a Republican and served some time as a justice of the peace, two terms in Logan county and two terms in Dudley township, Hardin county.

The wife of Alonzo Harvey was born September 15, 1823, in Logan county, Ohio, daughter of Caleb and Mary (Branson) Ballinger, who came to Ohio from Virginia. Mrs. Ballinger died September 21, 1905. Caleb Ballinger was a local preacher of the Methodist church in Logan county, Ohio. Mr. Harvey and his wife had six children, namely:

Irvin H.; W. N., a carpenter of Rushsylvania, Ohio; and Mary, widow of G. L. Thompson, of Mount Victory, Ohio, who has six children, five sons and one daughter. Isaac N., J. O. and T. M. were the three oldest of the children.

Irvin H. Harvey received his education in the public schools and spent his childhood on a farm. After completing his education he worked some time on a farm for a neighbor, and when his father purchased a half-interest in a store at Kenton he worked there as clerk five years. He sold his interest in the store and secured for the same one hundred and sixty acres of land in Indiana, which he later sold and then spent four years on a farm in Dudley township, after which he located on his present farm in Hale township. Mr. Harvey carries on general farming and raises some stock. He is enterprising and ambitious, and in his dealings with his fellows has proven himself to be a man of high character and sterling honesty. Politically he is a Republican, takes an active interest in public affairs and served three years as assessor of Hale township. He is a devout member of the Christian church, as is also his wife.

On December 25, 1887, Mr. Harvey married Emma Curl, who was born November 19, 1866, daughter of Aaron and Rachel (Harpel) Curl. Mr. Curl is a prominent farmer of Hale township. Mr. Harvey and his wife have children as follows: Charles, born October 29, 1888; Ottie R., born March 22, 1891; Blanch M., born September 22, 1900; and Katie Agnes, born March 1, 1902. All are at home. Mr. Harvey is a life-long resident of the county, where he is well known and highly respected.

James R. Dunlap.—One of the venerable and honored pioneer citizens of Hardin county, where he has maintained his home from his boyhood days to the present time, Mr. Dunlap has been long and prominently identified with the great basic industry of agriculture, in connection with which he has so ordered his course as to achieve definite success and independence, being one of the substantial citizens of the county and the owner of a finely improved farm, located in Marion and Roundhead townships. He is a man of strong mentality and much administrative ability and has served in various positions of distinctive trust and responsibility—a preferment indicating the high esteem in which he is held in the community where he has long lived and labored to goodly ends.

Mr. Dunlap finds a due measure of satisfaction in reverting to the fine old Buckeye state as the place of his nativity, and the name which he bears has been identified with the annals of this favored commonwealth for more than three-fourths of a century. He was born in Weathersfield township, Trumbull county, Ohio, on the 2d of March, 1835, and is a son of John A. and Susanna (Mulholland) Dunlap, both natives of Ireland, where they were reared to maturity and where their marriage was solemnized, the father having been born in the year 1800. In 1832 they immigrated to America, and their first child, the only one born in the Emerald Isle, died on the voyage, being buried at sea. Soon

Jas R. Dunlap

after their arrival in the United States they came to Ohio and took up their residence in Trumbull county, where the father followed farming until 1844, when he removed with his family to Hardin county and purchased a tract of land in Marion township, where he reclaimed a productive farm and passed the residue of his life, an honest, earnest and industrious citizen and one who ever commanded the high regard of all who knew him. He died in 1882 and his devoted wife and helpmeet passed away in 1868, both having been members of the Methodist Episcopal church. They became the parents of five children, of whom four attained to years of maturity and of whom three are living. Joseph A. sacrificed his life in the service of his country, having enlisted in June 1861, in response to President Lincoln's first call, as a member of Company H. Thirteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and having been killed in the sanguinary battle of Stone's River. Of the three living children the subject of this review is the eldest; Ellen is the widow of Allen F. McArthur and resides in Kenton, Ohio; and Rachel is the widow of Alexander Dempster, and resides in Roundhead township.

James R. Dunlap secured his rudimentary education in the common schools of Trumbull county and later continued his studies in the schools of Hardin county, to which his parents removed when he was about nine years of age. He was reared to the discipline of the pioneer farm and did his share in reclaiming the land and in the other arduous work demanded in the early days and but dimly realized by the young men of the present generation in the same locality, now marked by opulent prosperity and manifold advantages. Mr. Dunlap finally initiated his independent career as a farmer, securing a small tract of land from his father and later adding to the same by purchase of adjoining land. He has made his one of the model farms of the county and the same comprises twelve hundred and sixty acres, located in Marion and Roundhead townships. The buildings are of the best type, including the modern residence, which he erected in 1893 and which is the finest house in Marion township. Mr. Dunlap now relegates the active work of the farm to other and younger hands, though he finds pleasure in giving a general supervision to his farm and to directing the various details of its operation, in which connection he brings to bear long and practical experience and much discrimination in a business way.

Mr. Dunlap has ever been progressive, loyal and public-spirited as a citizen and has given his aid and influence in support of all measures and enterprises projected for the general welfare of the community. He was one of the organizers and is still a stockholder of the United Farmers' Telephone Company, which affords the best grade of service to a large number of patrons, and is a member of the directorate of the Old National Bank at Lima, Ohio. In politics he is found arrayed as a stalwart advocate of the principles and policies for which the Republican party stands sponsor, and he has taken an active interest in the promotion of its cause. In 1863 he was captain of a militia organization constituting a part of the Home Guard, organized for service during the progress of the Civil war. His eligibility for public office

has not failed of due recognition, and he served six years, with marked ability and acceptableness, as a member of the board of county commissioners, which incumbency he retained from 1873 to 1879. In 1893 he was chosen one of the four members of the state board of road commissioners. This appointment was conferred by the lamented President McKinley, who was at that time governor of Ohio. He and his family hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church at Pleasant Hill, and the home is a center of gracious hospitality.

On the 13th of April, 1870, was recorded the marriage of Mr. Dunlap to Miss Viola L. Roberts, who was born in Westminster township, Allen county, Ohio, a daughter of the late J. B. Roberts, who was a representative farmer of Allen county at the time of his death. In conclusion is entered a brief record concerning the children of Mr. and Mrs. Dunlap: Rhoda, who was graduated in Oberlin College, is the wife of William H. Miller and they reside in the city of Cleveland; Joseph Wilber is engaged in farming in Marion township; Thomas Reed Dunlap is a resident of Alger, where he is engaged in the grain business; Miss Mabel, who is now at the parental home, was graduated in Oswego Normal School of Oswego, New York, and later in Columbia University, in New York City, from which historic institution she received the degree of Bachelor of Arts; Donald D. and Josiah died in childhood; Nellie, who was a student of Oberlin College, is the wife of C. R. Holmes and they reside in San Bernardino, California; James R., Jr., is a member of the class of 1910 in the Normal School at Ada, Ohio; and Ruth is attending high school in the city of Cleveland, being a member of the class of 1910.

John Williams, a merchant of Ridgeway, Ohio, was born April 1, 1848, in Hale township, Hardin county, and is a son of Jonathan and Betsy Elizabeth (Snoddy) Williams. Jonathan Williams was born in North Carolina, in 1798, and came with his parents to Hillsboro, Ohio, with a team and wagon; later they removed to Logan county, Ohio. His father, John Williams, came to America from Wales, and followed farming all his life. Jonathan Williams took up farming after finishing his education, settling first in Logan county and later removing to Hardin county; in 1829 he purchased a farm of one hundred acres in Hale township, in 1840 returned to Logan county, and came back to Hardin county in 1851. His wife, a daughter of Abner and Margaret (Hall) Snoddy, died in 1870, at the age of sixty-one years. Besides John, their children were: Brice, living retired in Mount Victory; Wait, in the timber business in California; Hannah, widow of John Wildon; and Tillie, wife of A. J. Johnson of California. Jonathan Williams was a member of the Methodist Protestant church; in politics he was a Republican, and he was the first trustee elected in Hale township.

John Williams attended the public schools, and at the age of eighteen years took up farming with his father; he also operated a threshing machine and worked at teaming and similar occupations. Mr. Williams has been a resident of Ridgeway since 1865, and is one of the leading and most respected citizens. He is a Republican in politics, and in 1900

took the census of Hale township. In 1905 Mr. Williams opened a grocery, restaurant and bakery establishment, which he is still carrying on.

On August 20, 1864, Mr. Williams enlisted in Company I, One Hundred and Eightieth Ohio Volunteers. He was sent to Tennessee under Schofield's army, in the Twenty-third Corps; he went to North Carolina and took part in the four days' battle at Kingston, and later was with Sherman's army until the surrender of Johnston. After Lee's surrender they were discharged, May 12, 1865, at Charlotte, North Carolina. Returning home, he took up his residence at Ridgeway, and is one of the oldest residents. He is a charter member of the local branch of the Grand Army of the Republic. He also belongs to the Knights of Pythias, and has passed through the chairs. He is a public-spirited citizen, and well known throughout the county where he has spent his entire life.

In 1873 Mr. Williams married Margaret, daughter of John and Sarah (Pierce) Davis; John Davis, a merchant of Ridgeway, is a native of Maryland. Mrs. Davis died January 9, 1895. Mr. Williams and his wife became the parents of children as follows: Emma, Raymond and Sallie. Emma, wife of J. S. Smith, lives with her father; they have three children, Martha, Kennon and Catherine, and their fourth child, Leo, was accidentally killed by a playmate with a pitchfork. Raymond is a railroad conductor and lives at Richmond, Indiana; he married Kate Gerlach and they have one child. Sallie, wife of George Grimes, a gardener of Harbor Springs, Michigan, has one child.

Jacob Sieg, now retired from active life and residing at Ridgeway, Ohio, was born in Hale township, Hardin county, September 2, 1843. He is a son of Jonathan H. Sieg, born in 1815, in Augusta county, Virginia, who was a son of Jacob Sieg, a native of Pennsylvania. Jacob Sieg, the grandfather, was born May 19, 1774, and died November 5, 1855; he married Lydia Haines, who was born January 8, 1793, and died in 1879. They moved to Logan county, Ohio, in 1828, and in 1836 settled in Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, and there built a log cabin; they cleared a woodland farm of one hundred and thirty acres. He was a member of the Presbyterian church and politically was a Democrat.

Jonathan H. Sieg remained with his parents until his marriage, January 12, 1837, to Lydia Hopkins, born in Logan county, Ohio, January 28, 1817, and still surviving, probably the oldest lady resident of Hardin county, and she still retains her mind and faculties. She is a daughter of Archibald Hopkins, a native of Delaware; he settled in Pickaway county, Ohio, in 1806. Archibald Hopkins was a soldier in the war of 1812; his parents were John and Martha Elsie Hopkins. Jonathan H. Sieg settled on a farm in Logan county, Ohio, after his marriage, and in 1840 settled in Hale township, Hardin county. In 1853 he removed to Ridgeway, where he died February 9, 1868; he was also engaged in the lumber business, and for five years carried on a dry goods business in Ridgeway. He sold out his store, but was engaged

in the lumber trade until his death. His children were: Jacob; A. H. Sieg, of Butte, Montana; one son deceased; and Eliza I., widow of George F. Parrett, of Adams county, Ohio. Mr. Sieg was a member of the Christian church and politically was a Democrat until the breaking out of the rebellion, after which he was a Republican. He was elected to the legislature in 1861 and served two terms. He served many years as a justice of the peace. In 1862 he removed to Cincinnati and joined the "Squirrel Hunters," but on account of his age never saw active service.

Jacob Sieg received his education in the public school and afterward taught school; at the age of twenty he began farming with his father. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company F, Thirteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, joining the Army of the Cumberland. He participated in many battles and was wounded at Murfreesboro and sent home. He received his discharge in March, 1863. Returning to Ridgeway he engaged in teaching and farming, which he continued until 1873, when he began to carry on the home farm. From 1886 until 1891 he was one of the owners of the mill at Ridgeway, since which he has been retired from active business. He is one of the most highly respected and popular citizens of Ridgeway, and is actively interested in public affairs. Politically Mr. Sieg is a Republican, and from 1873 until 1904 served as a justice of the peace. He was mayor of Ridgeway three terms, and has frequently been clerk and a member of the school board. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic of Ridgeway, of which he is now adjutant. This post was named after his brother, Robert K. Robert K. Sieg was born in 1838, and in 1861 enlisted in the same company as his brother; he was first promoted to the rank of second lieutenant, was wounded while climbing Missionary Ridge, after which he was promoted to first lieutenant, and later captain. He is now deceased.

In 1875 Mr. Sieg married Victoria Crow, born November 23, 1857, in Wyandot county, Ohio, daughter of E. B. Crow, a physician still practicing his profession at Ridgeway. Mr. Crow married Isabel Hudson. Mr. Sieg and his wife became the parents of five children: two deceased; R. Carl, managing his father's farm, and is unmarried; Kate, born in 1886, is teaching school; and Laura is living at home, and is prominent in literary circles.

William Grant Butler is prominently numbered among the business men of Mount Victory, a manufacturer and a poultry shipper. He was born in this city on the 6th of June, 1868, a son of Daniel and Leah (Ansley) Butler, both of whom were burned to death on the 14th of November, 1907, and they died within four hours of the terrible accident. The father was then seventy-three years of age. He was born in 1836, in Logan county, a son of Benjamin Butler, who came as a boy to Logan county, where he farmed all his life. Benjamin Butler was a Quaker and he died in 1872, at the age of sixty-eight. His wife was Eliza Dickinson, who was a daughter of Thomas Dickinson a native of Virginia. Mr. Dickinson lived to the patriarchal age of ninety-three years. His daughter, Mrs. Butler, died in 1888, when seventy-seven.

After his school days were over, Daniel Butler engaged as a farmer and a stock raiser. He came to Hardin county in 1860, and settled on a farm near Ada. Later he moved near to Mount Victory and in 1880 he retired from farming and came to the city, where he was engaged in the real estate business up to the time of his death. He married Leah Ansley in 1858. She was a daughter of Joseph and Lydia (Johnson) Ansley and was born near Russellville, Logan county, in 1842. Joseph Ansley was born in Maryland and when a youth emigrated to Kentucky, where he married Lydia Johnson. Later he and his wife and child came to Logan county, Ohio, on horseback. His wife was a daughter of a Kentucky planter and slave owner. Joseph Ansley died December 26, 1876, aged seventy-five, and his wife died the previous year, on the 30th of March, at the age of sixty-nine. In the family of Daniel Butler and wife were the following sons and daughters: Henry C., of Englewood, Kansas, a farmer and stock man; Orra O., engaged in the harness business in Mount Victory; Lydia A., the wife of H. Perry, a stockman at Hutchinson, Kansas; William Grant, mentioned more at length below; Viola, the wife of M. Richards, a farmer in Buck township, Hardin county; Etta, wife of John Buck, a banker and stockman at Englewood, Kansas; and Mollie, the wife of William Wagner, of Pittsburg. Daniel Butler and his wife were members of the Disciples church and he belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Mount Victory.

After leaving school at the age of seventeen years William G. Butler pursued a course in bookkeeping at Mansfield, Ohio, during one term, and then entering the employ of Dickinson and Wallace, Mount Victory, he continued as their salesman for three years, while during the following fourteen years he was engaged in the grocery business. Selling out his interests in that business in 1906 Mr. Butler built and equipped a creamery at Mount Victory, placing in it the latest and most improved steam and gas machinery, and he manufactures both butter and ice cream, making on an average twelve hundred pounds of butter weekly. He is in business with a partner, the firm name being Butler & Richards, and they are also extensive dealers in and shippers of poultry. They are men of well known ability, and their firm is one of the most prominent of the business corporations of Mount Victory.

Mr. Butler married on the 4th of September, 1896, Estella Williams, born December 14, 1872, a daughter of Warneck and Huldah M. (Reams) Williams, the father born on the 6th of April, 1845, and the mother on the 5th of April, 1851, and they are living in Dudley township, Hardin county. Mrs. Butler is a granddaughter on the paternal side of Jesse Williams, born April 4, 1804, and of Hannah Sutherland, his wife, born September 2, 1807. Mr. Butler is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity, Mount Victory Lodge No. 735. In his political affiliations he is a Republican, and he has been honored with public office, serving as treasurer of the township and six years as corporation treasurer, and he has also served as a member of the Mount Victory school board. He is one of the representative citizens and business men of his city.

Orva Otis Butler represents a family that has been identified with the interests of Mount Victory and of Hardin county for many years, prominent in both its business and agricultural life, and Orva O. Butler is well known as a dealer in buggies and harness and as a sheep raiser and shipper. He was born in Mount Victory on the 18th of March, 1882, a son of Daniel and Leah (Ansley) Butler, both of whom were burned to death on the 14th of November, 1907, and they died within four hours of the terrible accident. The father was then seventy-three years of age. (Further ancestral history will be found in the sketch of William G. Butler.) In their family were the following sons and daughters: Henry C., of Englewood, Kansas, a farmer and stockman there; Orva O., mentioned below; Lydia A., the wife of H. Perry, a stockman at Hutchinson, Kansas; William Grant, a prominent manufacturer and poultry shipper living in Mount Victory; Viola, the wife of M. Richards, a farmer in Buck township, Hardin county; Etta, wife of John Buck, a banker and stockman at Englewood, Kansas; and Mollie, the wife of William Wagner, of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

Orva O. Butler from the age of ten to eighteen years was engaged in the dairy business with his mother, and graduating from school at the age of eighteen he with the money he had saved as a dairyman bought a half interest in his brother's grocery store in Mount Victory, and after four years there became associated with his father-in-law, T. J. Boyd, as a buggy and harness merchant. He has thus continued to the present time, and has become well known and prominent as a business man and citizen. He is also quite extensively engaged in raising sheep, feeding on an average of five hundred head. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity, Mount Victory Lodge No. 735, and has served the order as master of exchequer. He is a Republican in his political affiliations, and at the present time is presiding officer of the election board.

Mr. Butler married Lela J. Boyd, who was born August 30, 1882, a daughter of T. J. and Deborah (Marmon) Boyd. T. J. Boyd is a Mount Victory merchant, where he is living at the age of sixty years, and his wife is fifty-four years of age. They have two children, a son and a daughter, and the former, Clarence Boyd, is also living at Mount Victory. Mrs. Butler is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and she is also associated with the Foreign Missionary Society and with the Ladies Aid of that denomination. A son, Gordon Boyd Butler, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Butler in 1905.

Clarence D. Hindall.—The thriving little village of Alger is fortunate in having as superintendent of its public schools so able and enthusiastic an educator as Professor Hindall, who has held this incumbency since 1907 and who has brought the schools up to a high standard of efficiency, the same being on the accredited list of the leading institutions of higher academic education in the state. The schools under his direction consist of six departments, including the high school, and employment is given to five teachers in addition to the superintendent. The facilities and methods are of the best modern type and the work of

all departments is conducted with utmost harmony, insuring the best results in the instruction of students and economy and precision in the carrying out of the prescribed curriculum.

Professor Hindall finds a due mede of satisfaction in reverting to the old Buckeye state as the place of his nativity. He was born on the homestead farm of his father, in Perry township, Logan county, Ohio, on the 5th of September, 1882, and is a son of Robert W. and Melissa (Powell) Hindall, who still reside in that county, where they hold a secure place in popular confidence and esteem. They are devoted members of the Christian church and in politics the father gives his allegiance to the man and not to the party. Of the three children, all of whom are living, the subject of this review is the second in order of birth.

Professor Hindall was reared on the home farm and as a boy he began to contribute his quota to its work, in the meanwhile continuing to attend the district school through the winter terms until he had attained to the age of fifteen years, when he entered the high school at West Mansfield, where he completed the prescribed four years' course and was graduated as a member of the class of 1901. Shortly afterward he assumed the position of shipping clerk in the wholesale grocery establishment of Williams & Hedman, of Columbus, Ohio, for which concern he later became a traveling salesman. With this firm he continued employed for two years, though in the meanwhile he taught two winter terms in the district schools of his native county. In 1903 he was matriculated in the theological department of Hiram College, at Hiram, Portage county, his intention being at the time to prepare himself for the ministry of the Christian church. He continued in the divinity school for two years, at the expiration of which he transferred to the classical course in the academic department, in which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1907, receiving from this historic and well ordered institution the degree of Bachelor of Arts. In the autumn of the same year he was chosen superintendent of the public schools of Alger, where he has since given most efficient service in this executive and educational office and where he has gained a high place in popular confidence and esteem, both as an educator and as a loyal and public-spirited citizen.

In politics Professor Hindall votes independent of party ties, and has had no desire to enter the arena of "practical politics." He is affiliated with Ada Lodge, No. 344, Free and Accepted Masons, at Ada, Ohio, and both he and his wife are zealous and valued members of the Christian church.

On the 27th of July, 1909, was solemnized the marriage of Professor Hindall to Miss DeBretto L. Martin, who was born at Ada, Hardin county, Ohio, and who was a resident of that village at the time of her marriage. Her father, C. L. Martin, died at Canton, Ohio, when the daughter was about two years old. Mrs. Hindall is a graduate of the Ada high school, also of the school of music and art of the Ohio Northern University in her native town and is a graduate of the National Park Seminary, Washington, D. C.

Frank W. Lydick is prominently known in Hardin county as a wire fence merchant, and his home is at Mount Victory. He was born at Dunkirk of this county October 7, 1877, and his father, Samuel B. Lydick, was a carpenter there for many years, but finally embarking in the undertaker's business he continued the latter vocation until his death, on the 13th of April, 1903. He was one of the prominent and well known residents of Dunkirk. He married in his early life Miss Martha E. Beartche, and their children are: James, engaged in the livery business in Dunkirk; Isaac, also a liveryman there; Joseph, a contractor at Union City; Harry, a clerk in the postoffice at Fort Wayne; and Mollie, the wife of Eder Ebert, of Fort Wayne.

Frank W. Lydick, also one of the above family, graduated from the Dunkirk high school at the age of seventeen years, and then learning the confectionery and candy making business he was thus engaged for six years in Fort Wayne. Coming then to Dunkirk he was in the livery business for fifteen months, and in 1906 he embarked in the wire fence business in Mount Victory, being also interested in the livery business here.

He married in 1905 Miss Geneva Titsworth, a daughter of a former druggist of Mount Victory, Richard Titsworth, but he is now living retired. Her mother is Ernestine (Johnson) Titsworth. Mr. Lydick has membership with both the Knights of Pythias and the Odd Fellows fraternities, and he has served in all the offices of the latter order at Dunkirk.

Dr. Brayton Albert Martin has the distinction of being one of the oldest practicing physicians of Hardin county, and he is well known within its borders and is prominently identified with the life and interests of Mt. Victory. He was born in Windham county, Connecticut, February 5, 1836, a son of Hosea and a grandson of John Martin, both of whom were born in the old historic homestead of the Martins in Windham county. The latter's father came to this country from Ireland, and he established his home in Connecticut. John Martin served his country as a soldier in the war of 1812. Hosea Martin, born in 1796, lived to the age of sixty-eight years. He was both a farmer and school teacher, performing his first professional work for six dollars a month, and he continued teaching for four years. At the age of forty he was made the general manager of a company engaged in the grist milling business, and afterward returning to farming he continued that vocation until his death. He was a Democrat in his political views, and he held many of the minor offices of his county. Hosea Martin married Beulah Slater, who was born in 1800 and died at the age of ninety-three. She was a daughter of Silas and Mary Ann (Burgess) Slater, a granddaughter of Silas Slater, who lived to the remarkable age of one hundred and four years, and a great-granddaughter of Silas Slater, who was the founder of cotton spinning in America. He manufactured his own machinery, and Slaterville, Rhode Island, took its name from this factory. The children born to Hosea and Beulah Martin are: William, a machinist, who died in Windham county, Connecticut; John, Silas and

Henry, all of whom were farmers in Windham county, Connecticut, and all are now deceased; Hazel B., a musician in New London, Connecticut; Brayton A.; Emily, the widow of W. Solsbury and who is living at Waupank, Connecticut; Mary Rood, deceased, who lived in Windham county, Connecticut; Susan, the wife of Jerry Boswell, of Sterling, that state; and Sylvia, the wife of Jerry Anderson, of Dennisville, Connecticut,

After leaving the public schools Brayton A. Martin attended for one year the academy at Danielsonville, Windham county, Connecticut, and then coming west he located in Union county, Ohio, where he studied medicine for three years, and after two years at the Starling Medical College, Columbus, he graduated in medicine in 1869, and at once engaged in the practice of his profession at Byhalia in Union county. After twenty years there he went to Brooklyn, Illinois, four years later to Timewell, Illinois, thence after twelve years to Missouri, four years afterward returned to Timewell, and then two years later came to Mt. Victory. He has practiced here to the present time, one of the loved family physicians of Hardin county. Dr. Martin served Washington township, Union county, as a treasurer for one term, and while practicing at Byhalia he was appointed the postmaster under Cleveland's administration. He is a member of the Hardin County State and American Medical Societies.

The Doctor married first Elizabeth Martin, and she died at the age of twenty-five years, leaving a daughter, Mary Luella, who died at the age of six years. He was then married to Margaret Haines, who bore him a daughter, Lula, wife of Clyde McCall, a Hardin county farmer, and this second wife died at the age of thirty years. His third marriage was to Anna Keller, who was born in 1867, a daughter of Henry Harrison Sells, a farmer in McDonough county, Illinois. Dr. Martin is a member of the Masonic order, affiliating with both the Blue Lodge and the Royal Arch. In politics he is a supporter of the principles of the Democratic party.

Robert C. Greene, deceased, who lived many years in Taylor township, Union county, Ohio, was a native of Vermont. His mother, Mrs. Sallie Greene, lived to the remarkable age of ninety-eight years, and during the last forty-three years of her life was totally blind.

In the fall of 1837 Robert C. Greene and his wife moved to Ohio, and in the spring of 1838 they located in Taylor township, Union county, on Mill Creek, near James Hamilton. In 1840 they located in the western part of the same township, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Before he came to Ohio Mr. Greene married Ruth Draper, who died January 16, 1859, and he afterward married Mrs. Mary Fink, who died February 28, 1865, at the age of sixty-three years. Mr. Greene died July 28, 1864, at the age of sixty-nine years. He was well known in the community, where he had a large circle of friends, and was deeply mourned by his family. He had children as follows: Elizabeth, Ira, Ruth (deceased), John C., Gideon, Robert B., Henry E. (deceased), Sarah and Nancy A. Elizabeth married Isaac Sanaft. Ira married

Elizabeth Shirk, and after her death he married Phebe Heath, who also died, and he married a third time in Indiana, to whom it is not known. John C. married Amanda King. Gideon died young. Robert B. married Eliza Johnson, who died, and he married for his second wife Mary Roberts; he now resides in Kansas. Sarah married Thomas Yearsley, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Nancy A. married T. Lewis Temple, and resides in Kansas.

Archie Warren Titsworth.—During a number of years past Dr. Archie Warren Titsworth has been engaged in the practice of medicine at Mt. Victory, and in this time has become one of the skilled physicians of Hardin county. He was born in this city on the 8th of July, 1871, a son of Richard Leurick Titsworth, one of six children; the others are Nellie, deceased; Geneva, the wife of Frank Lydick, who is also represented in this work; Helen, at home with her parents; Horace, a druggist in Mt. Victory; and Richard, a telegraph operator in LaRue, this state.

After he had attained his eighteenth year Dr. Titsworth entered a school of pharmacy, also clerking in the meantime, and graduating and returning home in 1889 he became associated with D. M. Odaffer, a druggist at Marion, Ohio. After five years as a druggist there he entered the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati in 1894, and graduating therefrom in 1896 he began the practice of his chosen profession in his home town of Mt. Victory. He is progressive and thorough in all matters pertaining to his calling, and he is identified prominently with the Hardin County, the Ohio State and the American Medical Associations, and during two years he filled the office of vice president of the last named society. He is the present health officer of his township and the coroner of Hardin county.

Dr. Titsworth married Miss Carrie Bell Boyd, a daughter of James Milton and Mary (Griffith) Boyd. Mr. Boyd is a real estate operator, capitalist and manufacturer of Mt. Victory. Mr. Boyd was born December 19, 1853, in Union county, Pennsylvania, and he was but two years old when his parents, James William Boyd and Elizabeth Witcroft, settled in Hardin county, Ohio. He married Mary Griffith, a daughter of J. and Mary (Clyburn) Griffith, natives of Highland county. Mrs. Boyd died in 1901, at the age of fifty-one years. A son, Boyd Blair Titsworth, was born to Dr. and Mrs. Titsworth on the 10th of January, 1906. The Doctor is an active worker in the local ranks of the Republican party, and he is also prominently associated with the Maccabees fraternity, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Elks and during the past ten years with the Knights of Pythias, Mt. Victory Lodge No. 734.

Charles B. Fink is numbered among the essentially representative business men of his native city of Kenton and is successfully conducting the flourishing enterprise with which his father was identified for many years before his death. He is a son of the late Benedict Fink to whom a memoir is dedicated on other pages of this work, so that a reiteration of the data is not demanded in the present connection. The establish-

ment of which Mr. Fink is the proprietor is one of the leading retail houses of the thriving city of Kenton, and in the same is carried a large and select stock of dry goods, notions, carpets, rugs, draperies and also musical instruments.

Charles Benedict Fink was born in Kenton on the 17th of March, 1865, and is the only son and younger child of Benedict and Martha (Moy) Fink. He was reared to manhood in Kenton, to whose public schools he is indebted for his early educational discipline and this city has ever been his home and represented the scene of his successful endeavors as a business man. Upon attaining to his legal majority, in 1886, he was admitted to partnership by his honored father, with whom he continued to be associated until the death of the latter in 1905, since which time he has individually conducted a large and prosperous business which is based on a long maintained reputation for fair and honorable dealings and to which is accorded a thoroughly representative patronage. Mr. Fink himself has thus been identified with the local business interests for nearly a quarter of a century and, like his father, he has never lacked the unqualified confidence and esteem of the people of his native city and county. He is a member of the directorate of the Kenton Savings Bank and also of that of the Home Savings and Loan Company of Kenton. As will be noted by reference to the memoir of his father, Mr. Fink is a scion of one of the old and honored pioneer families of this section of the state, with whose initial development his grandfather, Benedict Fink, was prominently identified, having been one of the early farmers of Pleasant township, where he reclaimed a considerable tract of land from the virgin forest.

Charles B. Fink and his wife are identified with the social activities of their home city, where their circle of friends is limited only by that of their acquaintances, and their attractive home is the center of gracious and generous hospitality. In the time-honored Masonic fraternity Mr. Fink has attained to the Thirty-second degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. His York Rite affiliations are with the organizations in Kenton. He is also identified with Alladin Temple, Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine in the city of Columbus, Ohio; with Kenton Lodge No. 157, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; and also with the Knights of Pythias.

On the 24th of October, 1888, was recorded the marriage of Mr. Fink to Miss Sallie Strong, who was born and reared in Hardin county and who is a daughter of Colonel L. and Mary (Milliman) Strong. The former, now deceased, was an influential and honored citizen of this section of the state. Mr. and Mrs. Fink have one son, Frederick Strong Fink.

Dr. Frank Humphreys is numbered among the successful medical practitioners of Hardin county, practicing at Mt. Victory, and he also represents one of the county's pioneer families. He was born in Logan county, Ohio, near East Liberty, September 30, 1856, a son of Shepherd Green Humphreys and a grandson of Jacob Humphreys. His paternal great-grandfather came to this country from Wales and located in

Virginia. Jacob Humphreys died in 1862 at Somerset, Kentucky, of typhoid fever, being then sixty-one years of age. He was born in Virginia, and during the early years of his life he farmed and drove a mercantile wagon between East Liberty and Cincinnati. At the age of sixty years he enlisted for the Civil war, and served until his death as a first lieutenant, while previously he had served as captain of a party in Logan county, Ohio, called the "Wide Awakes." He attained a high place in the ranks of the Masonic fraternity, being a charter member of the order at East Liberty. His wife, nee Margaret Green, died in 1825.

Shepherd Green Humphreys, born October 13, 1829, is a son of Jacob and Margaret (Green) Humphreys. After leaving the school room he followed farming on his father's farm and also conducted a saw mill until his marriage. During several years he operated by water power a carding machine. In 1858 he came to Mt. Victory, peddling stoves throughout the county for some time afterward and during the Civil war he bought horses for the government. He also enlisted for service for one hundred days, joining the One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, was sent to Harper's Ferry and finally mustered out of the ranks. Following his return home he resumed his business operations and later embarked in general mercantile pursuits at Mt. Victory, while in 1893 he retired from an active business life and he died on the 13th of April, 1909, aged seventy-nine years and six months. He was a man of the highest integrity of character, and was one of the honored, early residents of Hardin county. He served his church at Mt. Victory, the Methodists, for many years as a trustee. His political affiliations were with the Republican party, and he filled the offices of overseer, trustee, township treasurer and corporation treasurer, acting in the interests of his city. On the 7th of April, 1852, Shepherd G. Humphreys was joined in marriage with Martha Elizabeth Titsworth, who was born in Union county, Ohio, in 1831, and died on the 3d of December, 1893, a daughter of Lemuel and Mary Titsworth, who moved from Union to Logan county, Ohio. There were a daughter and two sons in the family of Mr. and Mrs. Humphreys, and Mary, the daughter, is the wife of A. L. Sullivan, living in Lincoln, Nebraska. Shepherd M. Humphreys is a telegraph operator at Maysville, Kentucky.

Dr. Frank Humphreys, the second born child, after leaving the public schools at the age of seventeen entered Xenia College, where he studied for two years, and from 1877 for three years he was principal of the Augusta schools. While filling that position he began the study of medicine with Dr. R. L. Sweeney in Marion, with whom he remained for six years, and following his graduation from the Ohio Medical College on the 1st of March, 1882, he located at Mt. Victory and began the active practice of his chosen profession. After a time, however, he received the state appointment as physician to the Dayton Hospital, which he filled for two years, and returning to Mt. Victory he practiced here for two years, going then to Hamilton county and conducting a sanitarium at Madisonville until 1895, was then in practice two years in Cincinnati, and again returning to Mt. Victory he has since remained in continuous practice here.

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Dr. Humphreys married in 1897 Viola Stoms, born November 19, 1867, a daughter of Edmond and Susan L. (Trotter) Stoms. The father died in Hamilton county, Ohio, but the mother survives and is a resident of Mt. Washington. Edmond Stoms was a son of William and Eliza (Mears) Stoms, the former the founder of the large seed house of Hale and Stoms at Cincinnati. The Rev. Francis McCormick, great-grandfather of Mrs. Humphreys, was an old Virginian who freed his slaves and came to Ohio, becoming one of the early circuit riders of Hamilton county. Dr. Humphreys is a member, a trustee and the treasurer of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he has been a member of the Masonic order since the age of twenty-one, affiliating with Kenton Latham Lodge No. 154. He is also associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Mt. Victory, with the Mt. Victory Knights of the Maccabees, and with the County, State and American Medical Societies. He has one of the largest medical practices in Mt. Victory, and he owns one of the largest farms in Hale township.

John Morrison was for many years identified with the agricultural life of Hardin county, but in later years he has put aside an active business life and is now living retired at his pleasant home in Mt. Victory. He was born in Delaware county, Ohio, on the 2d of November, 1846, a son of Gryan Morrison and a grandson on the paternal side of Robert Morrison, who was born in Virginia and was a life-long agriculturist. He died in the year 1812. Mr. Morrison, the father, was born in Virginia in 1811, but when he was but two years old the family came to Harrison county, Ohio, and later to Union county, where he farmed until his death in 1864. Before his marriage he had also been engaged in mercantile pursuits in Delaware county. He affiliated with the Democratic party, and held the public offices of his township. Mr. Morrison married Margrette Beckley, who was born in 1821 and died at the age of sixty-six years. She was a daughter of Samuel Beckley, a farmer and distiller at Bellpoint, Delaware county, and of Susan (Hultz) Beckley. The children of this union are: Joseph, a farmer in Union county; Susan Ellen, the wife of J. Smart, of West Mansfield; Josephine wife of H. Fredericks, a farmer in Union county; and John.

After leaving the school room at the age of eighteen John Morrison lived with his mother on the home farm until he had attained the age of twenty-three, and he then married and located on a farm near New Dover. After two years there he went to a farm near Bellefontaine, where he remained for another two years, returning to the old homestead and two years later he went to the old Benton farm near Marysville and lived there for three years, when he returned once more to the Morrison homestead, and after two years there and on other farms near East Liberty he came to Hardin county, near Ridgeway. Here he successfully followed agricultural pursuits until after the death of his wife, and has since lived retired. He has been a member of the Disciples church at Ridgeway for many years, and has served his religious home as a deacon. He is also affiliated with the Democratic party and with the Knights of Pythias fraternity at Ridgeway.

In 1870, Morrison was married to Drusilla Ely, who was born in Logan county, Ohio, November 2, 1845, a daughter of Joseph Ely, a Logan county farmer for many years but a native son of Maryland, and of Anna Piercy Lemen, his wife. The mother died in 1849, and for his second wife Mr. Ely married Phoebe Henry, to whom nine children were born but only the following three are living: William Ely, living in West Mansfield; Cary Ely, of the same place; and Elma Jane, the wife of A. Arbeghast, living in Zanesfield, this state. Mrs. Morrison was the youngest of the nine children born of her father's first marriage, but only two daughters are now living, Rebecca, wife of H. Marknard, of Seattle, Washington, and Hulda, the wife of Samuel Simpson, of West Mansfield. Three children blessed the marriage union of Mr. and Mrs. Morrison, namely: J. Hartley Morrison engaged in the hay business at Mt. Victory, and he married Bessie Walos and has two children, Clara and Helen; Nona Margaret, the wife of George Walos, a farmer in Logan county, and their three children are Mabel, Ruth and Harold Morrison; and Vesta, the wife of Frank Dille, a farmer in Hale township, and their four children are Clair, Dwight, Leonora and Wilburt. Mrs. Morrison was a member of the Baptist church and later of the Disciple church, and she died on the 6th of November, 1907, after an illness of eighteen months. Her life was beautiful in its purity, goodness and Christian virtues, and her memory will long remain with those who knew her best.

Oliver Ellsworth Perry.—A citizen of prominence and influence is actively identified with the financial interests of Ridgeway as cashier of the Ridgeway Banking Company, with which he has been officially associated during the past seven years. A son of Henry Perry, he was born, February 27, 1861, in Delaware county, coming from thrifty Welsh ancestry.

His grandfather, Robert Perry, was born and brought up in Wales, as a youth following the sea. In early manhood he emigrated to America, being accompanied on his ocean voyage by a sister. Settling as a pioneer in the wilds of Ohio, he was much pleased with the future possibilities of his new home, and made ready to return to Wales to bring back with him the remainder of the family, but on reaching Baltimore, the port from which he was to sail, he was accidently brought face to face with his mother, who had followed him on a later vessel, arriving in this country in 1803. He located in Delaware county, this state, and having by dint of true pioneer labor cleared a homestead from the forest, was subsequently engaged in tilling the soil until his death. The maiden name of his wife was Margaret Hoskins.

Henry Perry was born in Delaware county, Ohio, March 4, 1819, and grew to manhood on the parental homestead, in the improvement of which he assisted. Becoming a farmer from choice, he met with good success in his vocation, spending his last years on his finely improved farm in Logan county, his death occurring in July, 1889. He learned the trade of a brick maker and burner when young, and followed it to some extent in connection with farming. He was one of the sub-

stantial men of his community, and a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. He married Martha Lavender, who was born in Pennsylvania, November 28, 1821. Her parents, Thomas and Elizabeth (Streeter) Lavender came from England to Pennsylvania in 1818, her mother died in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, in 1823, in early womanhood, while her father came to Delaware county, Ohio, improved a farm on the Scioto river where he died after attaining the venerable age of eighty-three years. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Perry reared four children, as follows: Ella, wife of G. W. Stevens, of Delaware county, Ohio; Margaret, living with her widowed mother; Oliver Ellsworth; and A. T. who died in Marion, Ohio, in 1906.

Leaving school at the age of sixteen years, Oliver E. Perry assisted his father on the farm for five years, after which he taught school two terms, the latter one in Kansas. Returning from that state to Ohio he bought land in Logan county, and was there profitably employed in agricultural pursuits from 1887 until 1903. Coming in that year to Ridgeway, Mr. Perry accepted his position as cashier of the Ridgeway Banking Company, and has since performed the duties devolving upon him in this capacity in a most efficient manner, his financial ability being recognized and appreciated. Politically a Democrat, Mr. Perry is active in party affairs, and at the present time is serving as town treasurer.

On December 28, 1893, Mr. Perry married Louisa E. Gantt, who was born August 25, 1875, a daughter of D. H. and Margaret (Kennedy) Gantt, residents of Hardin county. Eight children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Perry, namely: Alice, Dorothy, Robert, John, Edward, Francis and Martha and Merret, twins.

Judge John Rambo Selders.—Prominent among the most highly respected and valued citizens of Ridgeway is Judge John Rambo Selders, ex-judge of the probate court, and now, in 1910, serving as mayor of this city. He was born October 16, 1838, in Logan county, Ohio, coming on the paternal side from French ancestry, being a son of Hugh Selders. His grandfather, John Selders, a native of France, came as a boy to this country, and was brought up in Pennsylvania, near Philadelphia. He married Mary A. Latimer, and was subsequently one of the early settlers of Muskingum county, Ohio, locating at New Concord, where he cleared and improved a farm, on which both he and his wife spent their remaining days. He was a member of the Covenanters church.

Hugh Selders was born in New Concord, Ohio, in 1800, and obtained his education in the pioneer schools of his day. He remained beneath the parental roof tree until twenty-two years of age, and then began his life as an independent farmer in Logan county. Continuing as an agriculturist until 1866, he and his wife, both of whom were well advanced in years, went to live with a son, remaining with him the rest of their lives. He was a strong abolitionist, active in the work of freeing the slaves, being in hearty sympathy with such grand men as Garrison and Phillips, and was a member of the United Presbyterian church. The maiden name of his wife was Nancy Rambo. She was born in Muskingum

county, Ohio, a daughter of Thomas Rambo, a soldier in the war of 1812, and who married Elizabeth Campbell.

The only survivor of a family of nine children, John Rambo Selders received his elementary education in the public schools, after which he took a special course at Geneva college. He learned the carpenter's trade, and afterwards taught school for thirteen years in Ridgeway and vicinity, which has been his home since 1858. On June 5, 1861, he enlisted in Company F, Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to McClellan's Division of the army, and took part in the engagements throughout the Shenandoah valley. He was twice taken prisoner, but each time had the good fortune to escape. The regiment to which he belonged had two distinguished commanders, men who afterwards became presidents of the United States, Rutherford B. Hayes and William McKinley. In 1865, at close of the war, Mr. Selders received his honorable discharge and was mustered out at Cleveland.

Returning to Ridgeway he taught school three terms, and then moved to Kenton, where, in 1875, he was elected probate judge, a position that he filled ably and wisely until 1882. Returning then to Ridgeway, Judge Selders was for five years employed in agricultural pursuits, the following seven years being interested in the oil regions near Lima, where he located during the oil boom of 1887. Coming back then to Hardin county, the judge purchased land at Taylor's Creek, and managed it successfully for a few years, when he sold out, and has since lived retired from active pursuits in Ridgeway. He is an active member in the Democratic party, and in 1909 was elected mayor of Ridgeway, and is serving with credit to himself and to the honor of his constituents. He is one of the leading members of the E. I. G. Post, No. 753, G. A. R., of which he has been commander two terms, and belongs to the Disciples church, in which he is an elder.

Judge Selders married, on the 24th of December, 1865, Mary A. McCullough, who was born March 19, 1844, a daughter of Alexander and Mary (Sweitzer) McCullough. To the Judge and Mrs. Selders four children have been born, namely: Ida, wife of D. S. Bird, of Findlay, Ohio; Carrie E., who married Alexander Van Sky, of Hardin county, and they had six children; Nettie, who became the wife of Louis Conner, and died in January, 1905, leaving three children; and Effie married William Ward, and died in 1894.

Benedict Fink.—Success is the prerogative of valiant souls, and those endowed with definite energy, ambition and determination will overcome obstacles seemingly insuperable. It was given the late Benedict Fink, who was a member of one of the sterling pioneer families of Hardin county, to achieve through personal effort a large and generous measure of success in connection with business affairs and to make for himself a secure vantage place in the confidence and esteem of the people of the county which represented his home during the major portion of his life. Marked by inviolable integrity in all its relations, his life was one that counted for good and his ability enabled him to advance to prominence as one of the most substantial business men of the city of

BENEDICT FINK

Kenton, where his interests were varied and of important order. In this city his death occurred on the 8th of October, 1905, and his name is held in gracious memory by all who knew him and had cognizance of his sterling attributes of character.

Benedict Fink was born in Buetigen, Switzerland, on the 17th of January, 1830, and was the son of Benedict and Mary Fink, of whose six children he was the eldest. He received the rudiments of his education in his native land and was about seven years of age when, in 1837, his parents immigrated and the family passed the first winter in the city of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. In the spring of 1838 they set forth with team and wagon for Hardin county, Ohio, making the entire journey by means of this primitive equipment, as this was long before the time of railroad accommodations. Three weeks were consumed in making the trip and to reach the place selected for a homestead they were compelled to fell trees and clear out underbrush to effect a passage through the forest. The father secured a tract of available timber land in Pleasant township, about two miles north of Kenton, which was then a mere hamlet in the midst of the forest. He reclaimed a farm from the wilderness and was one of the well-known and highly honored pioneers of Hardin county, where both he and his wife continued to reside until their death.

Benedict Fink, the immediate subject of this memoir, was essentially a self-made man, and owing to exigencies of time and place, his educational advantages in his youth were somewhat meagre, being limited to desultory attendance in the primitive pioneer schools. He had his full quota of experience in connection with the reclamation and development of the home farm, and his boyhood and youth were marked by "ceaseless toil and endeavor." He continued to be associated in the work and management of the homestead until 1850, when, at the age of twenty years, he located in Kenton, where he secured employment as errand boy and general clerk in the store of Bromberger & Jones. In this connection was gained his initial business experience, and here his course was early marked by that fidelity, determination and aggressiveness which eventually conserved his distinctive individual success as a business man. Throughout his whole life it may well be said that his word was as good as any bond, and no citizen of the county has ever commanded more unequivocal popular confidence, though his directness and inflexibility in following the course which he believed to be right, at times promoted temporary antagonisms. After having been employed for a few years by the firm mentioned, Mr. Fink entered into partnership alliance with John A. Sheetala and purchased the store of Robert Russell, who had succeeded to the business of Bromberger & Jones. This association continued for a few years, at the expiration of which Mr. Fink purchased his partner's interest in the enterprise, which he thereafter conducted in an individual way. In 1877 he erected and moved his stock into the building in which the business has since been continued. This building stands on the site of the store in which he gained his first experience as a business man, and the enterprise with which he was so long identified is now conducted by his son, Charles B. Fink, of whom specific mention is made on other pages of this work.

In addition with his connection with the general merchandise business, as already noted, Mr. Fink's enterprising and progressive spirit led him to identify himself with other business interests that materially conserved the commercial and industrial prestige of his home city. He was vice-president of the Home Savings and Loan Company from the time of its inception until his death, and for many years he was also a valued member of the directorate of the Kenton Savings Bank. He was essentially public-spirited and loyal as a citizen, and his aid and influence were ever given in support of measures and enterprises tending to advance the general welfare of the community. For eighteen years he served as member of the Kenton Board of Education, and within his incumbency of this position he maintained an advanced attitude in bringing educational facilities of the city up to the highest possible standard, having ably advocated the erection of new and properly equipped buildings and having in divers other ways proved his vital interest in educational affairs.

In the year 1860 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Fink to Miss Martha Moy, who was born in Diesbach, Switzerland, and the two children of this union were Laura Moy, of Kenton, and Charles Benedict Fink, a brief record of whose career appears on other pages of this work. The devoted wife and mother, who was held in affectionate regard by all who came within the sphere of her gracious influence, was consigned to rest on October 25, 1891.

Joseph Yearsley, an extensive dealer and shipper of hay and straw living in Mt. Victory, Ohio, was born November 1, 1864, in Union county, Ohio. He is a son of Thomas and Sarah (Green) Yearsley; the father was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania, and his wife, a daughter of Robert and Ruth Green, was born August 3, 1833, and died April 5, 1907, at the age of seventy-three. Mr. Green and his wife settled in Ohio when Sarah was a child. Thomas Yearsley taught school in his youth, and later took up farming, which he followed during the remainder of his life. Besides Joseph, his children were: Alben, of Union county, Ohio, a farmer; Burton, also a farmer of Union county; Ada, wife of David Wyeth, of Union county; Emma, wife of Clifton Folsom, of Bellefontaine, Ohio; one daughter who died in infancy; and Mary, wife of Lloyd Rogers, died in Union county, Ohio, at the age of twenty-eight years, in 1900.

Joseph Yearsley attended school until seventeen years of age and then began working in a store at Broadway, Ohio, where he remained two and one-half years. He spent two years lumbering and hauling logs, and in 1891 rented a farm where he remained two years. He then worked on his father's farm until 1896, when he came to Hardin county, Ohio, and spent six years on a farm. Mr. Yearsley rented a farm in Buck township four years, spent one year farming on the edge of Logan county and then settled at Mount Victory, Hale township, in 1902. Since the time of his first coming to Hardin county, he has been interested in dealing in hay and straw, besides attending to his farming interests. He has been very successful in all his enterprises, and is one

of the substantial, representative business men of Hardin county. Politically Mr. Yearsley is a Republican, and he is now serving on the school board.

Mr. Yearsley married September 30, 1886, Anna Winter, born in Franklin county, Ohio, January 31, 1865, daughter of Levy and Nancy (Myers) Winter, both natives of Washington county, Pennsylvania. Mr. Winter was born in 1822 and died in 1890, and his widow survives at an advanced age. They were farmers of Union county, Ohio. Mrs. Yearsley died October 5, 1907, at her home in Mount Victory, sincerely mourned by a large circle of friends. She was kind and charitable, with a beautiful character and high ideals. She was a devout Christian and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, also of the Ladies' Aid Society, and was president of the Missionary Society. She was active in church work and always interested in every good cause.

Mr. Yearsley and his wife had children as follows: Blanch, born April 3, 1888, wife of Robert McKimm, a barber of Mount Victory; Mabel, born March 21, 1893, attending high school; Fern, born October 15, 1896, attending school; and Wilbur, born September 8, 1901, died August 10, 1904. Mr. Yearsley lives at home with his children.

Elmer Ellsworth Lynch, M. D., a highly successful physician and pharmacist of Ridgeway, is one of the most useful and esteemed citizens of this place, his enterprise, good character and public spirit, having won for him an assured position in the estimation of the people. A son of the late Hezekiah Lynch, he was born April 25, 1864, in Hale township, Hardin county. His grandfather, Clinton Lynch, came from Virginia to Hardin county, establishing himself as a general merchant at Forest, where he remained in business until after the death of his wife, in 1875, at the comparatively early age of forty-nine years. He subsequently moved with his family to Mount Victory, and was there a resident until his death, in 1881, at the age of three score years.

Hezekiah Lynch was born in Virginia, in 1838, and when young came with his parents to Hardin county, where he grew to manhood, and subsequently spent his life, dying at his home in Hale township in 1902. He married Mrs. Levina (Andrews) Osborn, who was born in Hale township, May 31, 1838, a daughter of Lewis and Mary (Conklin) Andrews, early settlers of Hardin county, coming from Pennsylvania to Ohio in 1827. The only child born of their union was Elmer Ellsworth, the subject of this brief sketch. By her union with her first husband, Obedia Osborn, Mrs. Lynch had three children, namely: Lafayette, of Mt. Victory, a stockman; Ida, wife of C. A. Wilgus, of West Mansfield; and Etta, deceased, married Arthur Van Tuyl.

During his earlier life Elmer E. Lynch taught school five years three years of the time being thus employed at Mount Victory. He afterwards attended Wittenberg College at Springfield, Ohio, one term, later studying a year in the literary department of the Wesleyan University at Delaware. He subsequently began the study of medicine at the Miami Medical College in Cincinnati, and in 1895 was graduated,

with the degree of M. D., from the Toledo Medical College. Dr. Lynch began the practice of his profession at Silver Creek, from there going to Big Springs, and in 1901 came to Ridgeway, where he has since remained, having built up an excellent practice, in connection with which he established a pharmacy, which he is conducting most successfully. The Doctor is active in public affairs, being one of the leading Democrats of this section of Hardin county, and from 1902 until 1908 served as mayor of the city. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Woodmen of the World.

Dr. Lynch married in 1891, Elizabeth Iames, who was born March 7, 1872, a daughter of Thomas D. and Lydia Iames, natives of Pennsylvania, where her birth occurred. She came with them from Pennsylvania to Ohio, and lived in Logan county until her marriage. On October 8, 1909, the angel of death crossed the Doctor's threshold, bearing to the life beyond the loving wife and mother. She was a woman of noble character, devoted to the interests of her household, and was a conscientious member and an active worker of the Methodist Protestant church. One child was born to Dr. and Mrs. Lynch, namely: Leota, born July 2, 1892, and who has had charge of the home since the death of her mother, filling the place of the loved one to the best of her ability.

Francis Marion List is the present postmaster of Mt. Victory, and he is an active public worker. He was born in Marion county, Indiana, June 20, 1845, a son of Henry S. List, born in Switzerland county, Kentucky, and a grandson of John D. List, one of the early pioneers of that county. This John List, a farmer and later a cooper, came from Switzerland county to Johnson county, Indiana, when his son Henry was a boy of ten years, and the family camped out until a log cabin could be erected. He made the journey with an ox team, coming with a colony which settled in Johnson county at that time, and his worldly possessions then consisted of an axe and a few utensils. There was scarcely any money in circulation there at that time, skins of animals being used in exchange for food and materials. John D. List married Sarah Breckenridge, also from Kentucky, and she shared with her husband the pioneer life on the frontier of Indiana. Their son Henry after leaving the school room followed the carpenter's trade and farmed. After his marriage he moved to Marion county, Indiana, and he continued his farming and carpentering there until his death, dying in 1851, a member of the Presbyterian church and a Whig in his political affiliations. He had married in his early life Louisa E. Mars, and she died in 1852, when but twenty-three years of age. She was a daughter of Daniel G. Mars, who came from his native Ireland to America in 1835 and located in Marion county Indiana. Two of the four children born to Mr. and Mrs. List are living, and the daughter Anna, the younger of the two, is the widow of Gilbert McCaslin and a resident of Franklin county, Indiana.

Francis M. List was left an orphan when but six years of age, and he was reared by his grandparents. Moving to Champaign county,

Illinois, in 1856 he spent three years there, and moving then to near Monticello, that state, he farmed the land which had been purchased by his grandfather and an uncle many years before. At the age of seventeen he enlisted for service in the Civil war, and joining Company D, Seventy-third Illinois Infantry, at Monticello, in 1862 he was sent with his command to Louisville, Kentucky, and thence to Cincinnati, Ohio, crossing the river on pontoons. They built the first fort near Covington, Kentucky, and with his command Mr. List participated in the battles of Perryville, Nashville, Murfreesboro (where they were under fire for four days,) Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Knoxville and the Atlanta campaign. He was wounded at the battle of Chickamauga, and he was mustered out of the service on the 12th of June, 1865. After returning home from the war, Mr. List attended the academy at Monticello, Illinois, for one year, and then studied dentistry and practiced the profession for a year. He was after this for two years the superintendent of railroad grading, and then returning to Urbana, Illinois, he resided there until 1874. Following his marriage on the 29th of October of that year he came to Mt. Victory, where he was engaged in the manufacture of brick and tile until 1905, and in that year he was appointed the postmaster of Mt. Victory.

Mrs. List bore the maiden name of Lucy J. Patrick, and she was born on the 12th of July, 1851, a daughter of John and Martha (Cutting) Patrick, the father a cabinetmaker at Zanesfield, Ohio. Of the four children born to Mr. and Mrs. List three died in infancy, and the only one living is Lula, born March 25, 1876, and now assisting her father in the postoffice. Mr. List is a member of the Republican party and of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mrs. Rebecca Robinson.—One of the most highly respected residents of Hale township, Hardin county, Ohio, is the venerable Mrs. Rebecca Robinson, widow of Silas Robinson, who died in 1864. The Robinson homestead is located in a historic spot, and even today is known by its very old title of Grassy Point. Mrs. Robinson was for many years actively engaged in managing and carrying on the farm, but has now retired from active life, and her task has been taken up by her son, who resides with her. She was born May 22, 1829, in Logan county, Ohio, a daughter of William and Margaret (Richardson) Paxton, the former of whom died in 1879, at the age of eighty-eight years, and the latter died in 1876, at the age of seventy-five years. William Paxton came from Virginia to Logan county. He was a son of John and Nancy Paxton, the former of whom died in 1800. William Paxton farmed with his parents until 1835, and then moved with his family to Hale township, where he lived a short time, but by mistake in the title lost his land and then located on the farm now occupied by the Balding heirs. There he remained until 1875, and then removed to Cass county, Michigan, where the remainder of his life was spent. He and his wife had ten children, of whom five survive, namely: Henry, retired and living at Bell Center, Ohio; Harriet Ann, wife of J. Boyd, a retired farmer of Cass county, Michigan; Susan, wife of M. Dunson, of Bellaire,

in northern Michigan; Harriet, wife of Sol Ream, of Zanesfield, Ohio; and Mrs. Robinson.

Rebecca (Mrs. Robinson) is the oldest living of the family. Grandfather Paxton was a school teacher, and one day, just before his death, sent his pupils home with the remark that he would never teach again and his death occurred that night. Rebecca Paxton remained at home until her marriage, in 1851, to Silas Robinson, who was born in Champaign county, Ohio. He was a successful farmer and became a prominent citizen. He made a specialty of raising and shipping stock. He came to Hardin county from Champaign county, Ohio, with a sister and his father and settled on the farm where his widow now resides, he and his sister living together until his marriage. After 1855 he confined his attention to farming, and became prominent in local political matters. He was a Whig and later a Republican, becoming a member of the school board.

The father of Silas, John Robinson, came from Virginia to Champaign county, Ohio, as a boy, and afterward located in Hardin county. He died at the home of his son Silas, in 1860, at the age of ninety-one years.

Silas Robinson and his wife had children as follows: William Henry, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work; Lavina, widow of William Callahan, of Ridgeway; Harriet, wife of Dan Ferris, a drayman of Ridgeway, and they have four children; and Albert, who married Catherine McElhaney, and they have three children.

Mrs. Robinson is one of the most enterprising and able business women of Hardin county, enjoys the affection of a large circle of friends, and is highly respected by all. She is well known in the community, and for the past forty years has been a church member. The home of Mrs. Robinson was in early days a hotel, which was operated by Horace Buckminster, and this was known as the Wayside Inn. Mrs. Robinson's father built a rough cabin, during his absence trading furs, and his wife, who was left alone with the children, had to keep a bright fire all night to keep away the wolves.

Peter Brown.—The substantial and well-to-do agriculturists of Buck township, Hardin county, have an excellent representative in the person of Peter Brown, who comes on both sides of the house of pioneer stock, and is successfully devoting his time and energies to his well improved and finely managed farming property. He was born May 31, 1853, in Scioto county, Ohio, a son of Joseph Brown. His paternal grandfather, William Brown, was born in Ireland, of thrifty Scotch ancestry. Emigrating when young to the United States, he bought a tract of wild and wooded land in Scioto county, Ohio, and on the farm which he cleared and improved he resided until his death, at the age of four score years.

Born, reared and married in Scioto county, Ohio, Joseph Brown lived there until 1855, when, accompanied by his wife and two children he migrated to Logan county, and bought a tract of land near Ridgeway. A log house, a log stable, and a patch of cleared land constituted the

Ella Brown Peter Brown

improvements on the place. He cleared more of the land and then sold at an advance, and bought eighty-seven acres on the north line of the county. There were two log cabins on the land when he bought it. He subsequently built a spacious hewed log house, and resided there a number of years. Selling out then, he bought ninety-six acres, a part of which was in Hardin county. He built a hewed log house, improved the land, and set out fruit and shade trees, rendering the estate one of the most attractive in the neighborhood, and was there a resident until his death, at the age of forty-nine years, while yet in the prime of life.

Joseph Brown married Edey Riley, who was born near Zanesfield, Logan county, Ohio, eighty-seven years ago, a daughter of William and Nancy Riley, who were among the original settlers of Logan county. When they located there wild game of all kinds was abundant, and Indians still inhabited the forests. Mr. Riley cleared and improved a good homestead, and there he and his faithful wife and co-worker spent their remaining years. Mr. Brown's mother is still living, and has a vivid recollection of the hardships and privations endured by the brave pioneers of this section of the country, who first uprooted the trees, ploughed the sod, and made a broad track for the advance of civilization. She reared four children, namely: John, Peter, Sarah Jane, and Margaret Ellen.

But two years old when his parents moved to Logan county, Peter Brown attended school as opportunity offered, gaily trudging the two long miles between his home and the log school house. After the death of his father he assisted in clearing the land and tilling the soil, remaining with his mother until ready to establish a home of his own. He settled then on a portion of the old homestead, but at the end of two years sold and bought land three miles north of Rushsylvania, where he lived three years. Selling that property Mr. Brown lived eleven years on rented farms in Buck township, and then moved to his present near-by farm, where he has since been actively and successfully engaged in general agriculture.

Mr. Brown married in August, 1879, Ella Roberts, a native of Logan county, Ohio. Her father, John Roberts, was born March 7, 1827, in Tennessee, and when six years old came with his parents, Andrew and Margaret (McCamish) Roberts, to Logan county. He served during the Civil war as a member of the One Hundred and Ninety-fifth Regiment of Illinois, at the close of the conflict being honorably discharged from the service. He was a farmer by occupation, owning land in Rush Creek township, Logan county, where he was engaged in his chosen vocation until his death, November 28, 1899, being seventy-two years, eight months and twenty days at the time. His wife, whose maiden name was Anna Kautzman, was born February 9, 1824, in West Virginia, a daughter of John and Mary Kautzman, who became early settlers of Logan county, Ohio. Anna Kautzman married John J. Roberts July 5, 1846, and she died October 30, 1904, at the age of eighty years, eight months and twenty-one days. She was the mother of eleven children of whom eight are living and Mrs. Brown is the third

youngest, the date of her birth being March 23, 1863. Mrs. Brown's mother spun and wove the large canvas cover that was used in camping when they came here. Mrs. Brown's mother passed to the higher life October 30, 1909.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown have two children, namely: Harry and Stella. Harry married Ella Dysart, and they have two children, Cleora and Dwight. Stella married first Kerr Brooks, and they had one daughter, Clara. She married for her second husband William Clark. Politically Mr. Brown is a stanch advocate of the principles of the Democratic party, and socially he is a member of Silver Creek Grange. Mrs. Brown is a member of the Disciples church of Belle Center.

Mrs. Nancy Elliott, who carries on a farm in Hale township, Hardin county, is the widow of Wilkinson Elliott, who was born August 6, 1809, and died August 10, 1894. He followed farming all his life and in 1855 came to the present Elliott farm, which he cleared; he built a log cabin, which has now disappeared, but the old barn he first erected is still standing. Mr. Elliott was a son of Benjamin and Susanna (Sutley) Elliott, farmers of Stark county, Ohio; he was born in 1778 and died in 1859, and his wife, who was born December 21, 1784, died March 21, 1883. Wilkinson Elliott traveled extensively before his marriage. He was a Quaker and a strong Prohibitionist, and traveled for the purpose of giving lectures in the cause, continuing this good work until his death. He met with an accident some years before this, so that he had retired from active life.

Mrs. Elliott is a daughter of John Rollins, a native of Virginia, a farmer all his life, and who died in 1841, at the age of seventy years. He married Rebecca Pyles, who died in 1860, at the age of sixty years. Mrs. Rollins reared a family of eight children after the death of her husband. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott had children as follows: E. L. Elliott, single, a farmer of Colorado; E. A. Elliott and his wife Anna, living on a farm in Hale township, have three children; Abbrilla, wife of Ross Armon, a farmer of Hale township, has two children. Mrs. Elliott was born in Scioto county, Ohio, October 1, 1826, and is one of the oldest residents of Hardin county. She lives alone on the old homestead, her children being all provided for, prosperous, well-to-do and all except one living near her. She endured the hardships incident to pioneer life in her young married life, and now enjoys a peaceful, though useful existence. She is an earnest member of the Quaker church, and is still an active worker. Since her girlhood Mrs. Elliott has spent considerable time weaving carpets and rugs, and still to some extent follows this old fashioned occupation as a pleasant pastime. Mrs. Elliott is well known throughout the community, where she is universally revered and esteemed. She is a pleasing conversationalist, and her manner and bearing are cheerful and pleasant, the reflection of a beautiful character.

Charles R. Wilson, a prosperous farmer of Hale township, Hardin county, was born December 27, 1864, in McLean county, Illinois, and is a son of Hugh Wilson. The father of Hugh, John Wilson, a native of

Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, moved to Beaver county, in the same state, where he entered four hundred acres of land. He sold two hundred acres and located in Holmes county, Ohio, where he opened a tavern and spent his remaining years. His wife was Mary Post. John Wilson served in the war of 1812, was a Whig, and a member of the Lutheran church.

Hugh Wilson was born in Holmes county, Ohio, March 4, 1818, and died June 5, 1895. He carried on farming until 1831 and then began driving an ox team for Cyrus Dille; in 1843 he married Sarah Dille, daughter of his employer, who died in 1866, aged forty-three years. After his marriage he entered a two hundred acre farm in Hardin county near his son, Charles R., and was the first settler in the section. In 1856 he drove a team to McLean county, Illinois, where he remained until 1870 and then moved to Pyatt county, Illinois, where he lived the remainder of his life. He was an earnest member of the Methodist church, and politically was a strong supporter of the Republican party. He served as clerk of Hale township when it contained but thirty-five residents. He was serving on a jury at Bloomington, Illinois, when Abraham Lincoln pleaded a case. Mr. Wilson was an influential citizen and served in the Illinois legislature. His children were: Mary, deceased; John, a farmer near Mount Vernon, Illinois; William, a farmer at Parkville, Missouri; Jane, wife of William Glass, of Platt county, Missouri; Cyrus D., a farmer of Platt county, Missouri; and Charles R., the youngest.

Mr. Wilson attended school until seventeen years of age and then for two years engaged in farming. For two years he was engaged in buying and shipping stock in Missouri, and then for some time in the real estate business in Kansas City. In 1887 he began farming in Illinois, and in 1896 located in Hale township, and purchased the farm he now occupies, one of the largest and finest in the township. He carries on general farming and raises considerable stock, being a progressive farmer, of modern methods and ideas.

Mr. Wilson married, January 16, 1889, Emma Jane McCall, born March 24, 1863, daughter of William E. and Charlotte (Garwood) McCall, of an old pioneer family, and they have children as follows: Carl H., born in 1890, now at the state university; Lucille, born in 1892, in the high school at Mt. Victory, Ohio; Chester M., born in 1893, at school; Lottie Irene, born in 1895, attending school; and John H., born in 1897, also at school. Mr. Wilson is a member and trustee in the Methodist church. He is a member of the school board, a strong Republican, and one of the most active and prominent workers in the interests of his party to be found in the community. Among the valued possessions of Mr. Wilson is an application for a land patent made by his grandfather in 1792, also a note issued to him payable in pot metal at the rate of eight cents per ton, the amount of the note being forty dollars. The grandfather, John Wilson, had once an exciting encounter with the only Indian who remained in the vicinity after the others had removed westward; the Indian afterward vanished, Mr. Wilson having won out in the contest. Mr. Wilson remembers as a boy being with his

parents a guest of Governor Cullom, of Illinois, at the time of a state fair, among the fellow guests being President R. B. Hayes and General Sherman.

William B. Wallace, a prominent farmer of Hale township, Hardin county, was born September 30, 1849, in Logan county, Ohio, and is a son of Alexander and Mahala Wallace, early settlers of Hardin county. Mr. Wallace attended school until seventeen years of age and remained with his parents until his marriage, when he settled on the farm he now occupies. He first bought forty-two acres, and the log house thereon, which was fashioned in a crude manner, was one of the first in the vicinity. He has acquired his present comfortable home and surroundings by his industry, economy and thrift. He has erected a fine residence and has one of the most attractive places in the township, with all modern conveniences.

In September, 1871, Mr. Wallace married Mary D. Rudasill, born January 26, 1850, in Logan county, Ohio, daughter of Winfield and Lydia (Sutton) Rudasill. Winfield Rudasill died in early life, and his wife still lives near Rushsylvania, aged eighty-two years. His father, Lamson Rudasill, and his wife, Mary Doby, were natives of Virginia, who settled in Logan county, Ohio. Winfield Rudasill and his wife had children as follows: John P., a farmer of Rushsylvania; Jonathan S., deceased, was a farmer living in Kansas; Leah, with her mother; Bessie, wife of J. Day; Florence, wife of E. D. Barber; and Mary D., Mrs. Wallace. Mr. Rudasill was a member of the Christian church, served many years as a justice of the peace of Logan county, Ohio, and was a prominent member of the Masonic order. Mr. Wallace and his wife have children as follows: Ethel, born in 1874, at home; George, born in 1876, a farmer in Logan county, Ohio; Bessie and Blanch, twins, born in 1878; and Earl, born in 1882. George married Nona Morrison and they have three children, Mabel, Ruth and Harold. Bessie married H. Morrison, a hay dealer of Mt. Victory, Ohio, and they have two children, Clara and Helen. Blanch married D. Vasser, a farmer of Hale township, and they have one child, Lela. Earl, a farmer in Hardin county, married Margaret Miller, and they have two children, Opal and Louise.

Mr. Wallace and his wife have been for many years members of the Christian church of Mt. Victory, of which he has served twenty years as trustee, deacon and elder; she also belongs to the Ladies' Aid and Missionary Societies. Mr. Wallace is actively interested in public affairs and is a member of the district school board. Politically he is a Republican.

Joseph Alexander Korns.—Prominent among the business men and citizens of Mt. Victory is numbered Joseph Alexander Korns, the cashier of the Mt. Victory Bank. He was born in Logan county, Ohio, April 9, 1879, a son of Silas Wright Korns, who is living retired at Mt. Victory, now sixty-six years of age. He was born in Holmes county, Ohio, and after leaving the school room he took up the work of the farm

Capt. John Hobensack

and followed it until enlisting for the Civil war. Joining Company G, One Hundred and Second Ohio Volunteer Infantry at Millersburg, Ohio, he served throughout the entire conflict, and after returning home from the war he again took up the work of the farm and continued as an agriculturist until his retirement in 1890. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and is one of the church trustees. Mrs. Korns, Anna A., is a daughter of one of the most honored residents of Mt. Victory, William I. Witcraft, a pioneer, business man and banker. His life's span has covered eighty-seven years, years of honorable effort, and he is now living retired. His wife was before marriage Margaret Wallace. Four sons and a daughter were born to Mr. and Mrs. Korns, but only the sons are now living. Charles William Korns is an agriculturist in Logan county, Ohio, and John Hamilton Korns is a practicing physician at Chicago, Illinois.

Joseph A. Korns after leaving the graded schools at the age of fifteen years attended high school for three years and graduated in 1898. He enlisted in April, 1898, for the Spanish-American war, at Kenton, Ohio, and was made a member of Company G, Second Ohio Infantry, accompanying it to Chickamauga Park, Chattanooga, Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee, and thence to Macon, Georgia, where he was stationed when the war ended. Returning home in February, 1899, Mr. Korns entered the Lima (Ohio) Business College and graduated therefrom in the fall of 1899. He entered the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, in the fall of 1899, and graduated from there in June, 1902. He then spent almost two years at Long Beach, California, connected with the First National Bank there, and coming to Mt. Victory in June, 1904, he was made the assistant cashier of the Mt. Victory Bank, and in January of 1906 became its cashier.

He married on October 4, 1903, Ethel Viola Williams, born March 6, 1880, a daughter of the Rev. Charles S. Williams, the pastor of the Winona church. His wife is deceased. Two children, Laverne Emelene and William Theodore Bashford, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Korns, and they are aged respectively five and one years. Mr. Korns is a member and one of the stewards of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he is also prominently identified with the Masonic order, affiliated with Latham Lodge No. 154, Scioto Chapter No. 119, with Kenton Council No. 65, with Kenton Commandery No. 58, with the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite at Toledo and with Aladdin Temple at Columbus.

John Hobensack, has through many years been prominently identified with the public life of Mt. Victory and active in the local councils of the Republican party. During thirteen years he served Mt. Victory as its mayor, and he is now serving his third term as a justice of the peace. He was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 16, 1833, a son of Isaac and Emily (Fetter) Hobensack, and a grandson on the paternal side of John Hobensack, who came to this country from Germany in 1771 and located in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. He was a land owner and farmer there, and he served five years as a Revo-

lutionary soldier. The Fetter family came to this country at the same time as the Hobensacks. John and Emily Fetter became farming people of Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. He affiliated with both the Whig and Republican parties, and he represented his county in the state legislature of Pennsylvania for two terms. Both he and his wife were members of the Baptist church. Their daughter, Emily, born in 1801, died in the year 1882. Isaac Hobensack, born in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, April 21, 1798, took up the work of the farm after completing his education, finally purchasing the old Hobensack homestead, which is yet in the possession of this family, and he died there in 1892. The children born to Isaac and Emily Hobensack are William; Rachel; Casper; Margaret, the widow of William L. Craven and living in Philadelphia; Isaac C.; Elizabeth; John, the subject of this sketch; and Mary Ellen, the widow of Thomas Mabray and living in Philadelphia.

John Hobensack after leaving the public schools at the age of seventeen attended the Chester county boarding school for three terms, and during a similar period thereafter taught school. He then turned his attention to farming, conducting the Hobensack homestead until his enlistment on the 8th of August, 1861 at Trenton, New Jersey, for the Civil war. Joining Company A, First New Jersey Cavalry, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in December, 1861, while in the following February he was promoted to a first lieutenancy, and in April was commissioned a captain. He served in all the principal battles of the Eastern army, and on the 9th of August, 1862, was wounded at Cedar Mountain. He was also wounded at the battle of Mine Run and again at Sweetbrier Springs, and rejoining his regiment from the hospital at Georgetown he served until the close of the war. He was captured at Brandy Station in Virginia and taken to Gordonsville in the same state, but escaping he rejoined his regiment, and was finally mustered out at Trenton, New Jersey, on the 28th of July, 1865. During his army career Mr. Hobensack served as staff aid-de-camp to General Winfield Hancock from December 1, 1864, until his discharge from the Second Corps, and he then held the same office under General Humphrey.

Returning to his home with an honorable military record Mr. Hobensack continued farm work there until March of 1866, when he came to Ohio and settled on a farm near Mt. Victory. He remained there until 1880, and being then elected the sheriff of Union county, Ohio, and re-elected for a second term he moved to Marysville, but returned to the farm in 1886, and in 1889 came to Hardin county and retired from an active business life.

On the 19th of February 1865, he was married to Emma E. Mabrey, who was born on the 12th of March, 1839, a daughter of William Mabrey, a Bucks county, Pennsylvania, farmer, and of Hannah C. (Travis) Mabrey, his wife. The children of this union are: Isaac K., who married Letitia James, by whom he has seven children, and he is farming near Lima; Henry H. an engineer in Washington county, Ohio, is a widower with five children; John W. who married Alice Taylor and who died leaving a widow and two children; Annetta is deceased; Carrie is the wife of C. Longhenry, of Columbus, the foreman of the Ohio Tube

Company; Maggie M. is the wife of John Foster, in the mercantile business at Dayton, and they have two children; William L. married Anna Vance and he is an engineer living in Columbus; Lincoln C. married Eva Rice and is in the railroad employ at Lewisburg, Ohio; Onto T. married F. Koontz and lives in Arkansas; Jessie is the wife of Ed. Hunt, a dentist at Mt. Victory; Elsie married George Miltholser; and Everett, also with the Ohio Tube Company at Columbus, married Eva Vance, and they have one child, Independence, living at home and born on July 4. Mr. Hobensack is a member of the Masonic fraternity at Richwood, of the Knights of Pythias order at Marysville and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Union county. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a representative citizen of Mt. Victory, and well known in its business, official and social life.

William Henry Robinson, who resides on the Robinson homestead carries on the farm, and was born on this homestead November 4, 1854, and is a son of Silas and Rebecca (Paxton) Robinson, both of whom are mentioned at considerable length in the sketch of Mrs. Rebecca Robinson, found elsewhere in this work. He lived at home until fifteen years of age receiving his education in the public schools, and remained at home until his marriage in 1879. In 1881 he moved to Ridgeway, where for two years he operated a meat market, then moved to Logan county, where he farmed two years, and at the end of that time moved to Kansas where by a series of misfortunes he lost all he had and returned to Ridgeway, again embarking in business. In 1889 Mr. Robinson removed to Athens, Tennessee on account of his wife's health, and worked there three years as a clerk, when her health returning, they located in Mt. Victory and for seventeen years conducted a hotel. In 1908 he settled on the old homestead, and is now engaged in its managing. He is an enterprising, ambitious farmer, who gives all his time to his work and has been successful. He is a public-spirited citizen, and actively interested in the progress and welfare of the community. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and his wife is active in church work, teaching a class in Sunday school, is a member of the Ladies' Aid Society, and also belongs to the home and foreign missionary societies, being president of the latter. Mr. Robinson is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Mt. Victory, and his wife belongs to the Rebekahs and the Maccabees. Politically he is a Republican and is now serving as district union school treasurer and is corporation treasurer.

William H. Robinson married Rosanna Callahan, who was born in Logan county, August 14, 1855, daughter of William Callahan, who died in 1885, having been born in Virginia in 1813. He came with his parents to Ohio at the age of fifteen years, and they settled near West Liberty. Later he moved to Logan county and there engaged in the lumber business. In 1861 he located in Ridgeway and engaged in milling, operating the first mill built in that town. Previous to this he had built the first saw mill and stave factory at Ridgeway. He also engaged in mercantile business. He died in Ridgeway. He married

Jeanette McDonald, who was born in 1818, and died November 19, 1906, a daughter of Ebenezer and Elizabeth McDonald, who came from Virginia and settled in West Liberty. Mr. Callahan's father, Patrick Callahan was a native of Scotland, settled in Champaign county, Ohio, and married Betsey Winsted. Mrs. Robinson's grandmother, Jeanett (Kelley) McDonald, died in 1881, at the age of eighty-five. She was a daughter of Joseph Kelly, a farmer who came from Virginia to West Liberty.

William Callahan and his wife had several children, those living being James, a farmer on the old homestead; Patrick, a druggist of Columbus, Ohio; Mrs. Robinson, who is the third child; and Moses, in the railway service, living at Kenton. William Callahan was one of the earliest business men of Ridgeway, and through his energy and good management the village was founded. In order to be able to pay for his farm of one hundred acres, he opened a trading store west of Kenton, trading beads, etc., to the Indians in exchange for furs. The union of W. H. Robinson and his wife has been without issue.

George William Ansley, a successful farmer of Hale township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born in Logan county, Ohio, February 26, 1843, a son of Charles and Mary (Spencer) Ansley. Charles Ansley, a native of Fleming county, Kentucky, born August 4, 1814, died in 1898, at the age of eighty-four years; he was a son of Charles Ansley, who was a native of Scotland. William Ansley, the grandfather of George W., was one of a family of sailors; he came to the shores of Maryland and, tired of sea life, traveled inland and located in Kentucky. He was a shoemaker by trade, and he and his wife came to Kentucky on horse back, settling in Elizaville, Fleming county. In 1835 they came to Logan county, Ohio, where they died. Their son Charles followed farming until 1851, when he became engaged as a contractor in railroad work, first in Kentucky and later in Ashland county, Ohio. He settled first in Logan county, where he purchased a farm which he later sold. He came to Hardin county in the fall of 1856, and first bought two hundred acres of land, building a log house and beginning to clear his farm, by thrift and industry he added to this till he owned three hundred and forty-five acres. He remained on this land the remainder of his life, farming and raising stock. Mr. Ansley was a Whig and later a Republican, and was a strong supporter of Fremont for president. His wife, Mary Spencer, born in Kentucky in 1815, died in 1903; she was a daughter of Charles and Eliza Spencer, he being a saddler by trade and the town of Elizaville, Kentucky, was named after Mrs. Spencer or one of her children. Mrs. Ansley was one of fourteen children, the only one still surviving being "Sis" Scott, living on the old family homestead in Kentucky.

Charles Ansley and his wife had six children, of whom George W. is the oldest. The others are: James R., a farmer of Hale township; Mary Jane, widow of J. Cook, of Harbor Springs, Michigan; Lydia, wife of William Allen, a farmer of Logan county, Ohio; Charles T.,; and Johanna, who died at the age of fourteen years.

The boyhood days of George W. Ansley were spent on a farm and

he received a meager education. He began plowing when a small boy, when his head barely reached above the plow handles, and continued to help his father until he was twenty-six years of age, when he was married. Mr. Ansley came to his present farm in 1868, and has four hundred and forty-five acres of the best land in the section of the state, where he lives. He is one of the most extensive farmers of Hale township, and raises considerable stock, about fifty head of cattle and five hundred head of sheep annually. He is an enterprising, progressive citizen, and pays strict attention to his business interests. He is successful as a farmer, and is considered one of the representative men of the county.

On October 3, 1868, Mr. Ansley married Mary J. Andrews, born in 1850, daughter of James and Mary (Hathaway) Andrews, who came to Ohio from Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1829; they settled on their present home, where he cut the first brush, and his wife and child remained with the Dille family while he erected a cabin. Mrs. Ansley has one sister, Anna, wife of O. S. Conklin, of Jonesburg, Missouri. Mr. Ansley and his wife became the parents of children as follows: Henry, living just west of his father; Frank, living at home; Hattie, wife of Joe Bentley, of Dayton, Ohio; Anna, wife of Charles Reams, and they have three children; Joe, a farmer of Dudley township, married Ruby Stevenson, and they have one child; and Waldo Glen, living at home.

In May, 1864, Mr. Ansley enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Ohio Infantry, for service under Generals Sigel and Sheridan, being one of the ten thousand tendered to President Lincoln by the Governor of Ohio. He was mustered out at Columbus, Ohio, September 1, 1864. He and Ferd Copp lay under a blanket when Jim Boyd of Mt. Victory, was shot by a stray bullet. Politically Mr. Ansley is a Republican, and is an active worker in the interests of the party; he served six years as trustee of Hale township. He is a prominent member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Ridgeway Lodge No. 693, and belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, Ridgeway Post.

Charles Francis Abbott, one of the prominent farmers of Dudley township, Hardin county, Ohio, is a native of Wood county, Ohio, born October 8, 1859, a son of Charles and Elizabeth (Shanks) Abbott. Charles Abbott was born in Huron county, and became a farmer. At the time of the Civil war he enlisted in the One Hundred and Twenty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and died in a hospital the next year (1863), having been shot through the mouth. His widow died in 1864, at the age of thirty years. Her father was a native of Ireland. Charles Abbott's father, Bennett Abbott, was born in New York state and was a farmer. He and his wife moved to Wood county, Ohio, where he died in 1870, at the age of sixty-six years. Charles F. Abbott has one brother, William Elwood, a railway employe living in Huron county. His sister Ida died in 1890.

After the death of his mother Charles F. Abbott and his brother and sister were placed in the hands of their grandfather Abbott, and after

his death his second wife, Martha (Hallett) Abbott, took care of them until they were able to look out for themselves. She is still living, and has reached the age of ninety-two years. After reaching the age of sixteen years Charles F. Abbott worked out on a farm by the month until attaining his majority. He married and bought a small farm in Wood county, where he lived seventeen years, and then removed to Dudley township, Hardin county, where he now owns one hundred and twenty acres of fine farming land. He carried on general farming with splendid success and made a specialty of stock raising. He has now retired from the harder labor of the farm and is enjoying a well-earned rest. Politically Mr. Abbott is a Republican, and he has served two terms as township trustee. He is a member of the United Brethren church and has been a trustee of the church for many years. His wife is also a member of this church and both are actively interested in its prosperity and good work. Mr. Abbott has always worked with great energy and by his good management and thrift has acquired a fair amount of property. Being left an orphan at an early age he has felt the necessity of looking out for himself since childhood, and has always demonstrated his business ability.

Mr. Abbott married Matilda Ann, daughter of Levi and Levina (Long) Helm, the father a native of Crawford county, Ohio, and a farmer. Levi Helm was born August 27, 1827, and died in 1864. He was a son of John and Susanna (Kirtz) Helm, and he married Levina Long, daughter of James and Matilda (Markey) Long, of Crawford county, Ohio. Mrs. Abbott has one sister living, Sarah Jane, wife of George Mell, a half sister, Julia Ann, and a half brother, Albert. To Mr. and Mrs. Abbott children have been born as follows: Arthur J., a farmer of Goshen township, married Fay Wilcox, of Hepburn, and they have five children, Andra Cecil, Paul Wilcox, Clidath, Justin and Alvin H.; William Frederick, who is now attending the University of Michigan, in preparation for ministry in the United Brethren church, married Grace Mauller in Marion county; Ernest Leroy, a farmer of Dudley township, married Bessie Kneisley, and they have one child, Anna Bell; Ida, at home; Luella May, wife of George W. Breitenstein (whose father's sketch appears elsewhere in this work), has two children, Freda M. and Dortha May; Charles Francis, at home; Earl Wesley, at home; and Clarence Edmund, also living at home.

Mrs. Susanna Calvin, who for several years managed the farm left by her husband, has now retired from its active supervision and is enjoying a well-earned rest. She is the widow of Lorenzo T. Calvin, who was born May 13, 1834, and died at his home in Dudley township February 12, 1896. Mrs. Calvin was born November 5, 1840, in Logan county, Ohio, and is a daughter of Hosea and Nancy (Rosebrook) Johnson, the former of whom died January 20, 1910, at the age of ninety-two years, and the latter was born February 11, 1817. The Johnson family came to Ohio from Kentucky in 1817, and settled in Logan county; they had a family of ten sons and two daughters. The Rosebrooks were natives of Virginia, where the father of Mrs. Johnson, Robert Rosebrook, had

a plantation and kept slaves; the old home and plantation are still in existence, and there her grandfather Hilkiah was born. He died in 1837. Her grandfather on the paternal side, Jacob Johnson, married Rachel Green. Hosea Johnson was the first child born after the family settled in Ohio.

As a girl Mrs. Calvin went to school in a log schoolhouse at Wolf Creek; her family moved to Hardin county when she was ten years of age. In her mother's family (the Rosebrooks) were fifteen children, who became scattered over many parts of the country, and at the last birth in the family triplets were born, two girls and one boy. The two girls died at birth and the boy died in the army. George was his name.

On October 21, 1860, Susanna Johnson married James Morrison, who was born June 4, 1838, in Muskingum county, Ohio. His father, Alexander Morrison, was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, June 4, 1797, and died at the age of ninety-one years; he married Grace Dickson, who died in 1880, at the age of seventy-seven years. In 1851 they came to Hardin county, where the remainder of their lives were spent. James Morrison and his wife followed farming after their marriage until his death, June 15, 1872, at the age of thirty-four years and on the farm now occupied by Mrs. Calvin. He enlisted for service in the Civil war, in Company H, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Ohio, for ninety days. After he was mustered out he settled on the farm where Mrs. Calvin now lives, consisting of one hundred acres, which he cleared. The farm now consists of one hundred and fifty-five acres and contains one of the most modern and handsome brick mansions in Dudley township. By her first marriage the subject of this sketch had children as follows: Robert H., born October 28, 1862, who was of great assistance to his mother as soon as he was old enough, and now has charge of the farm for her, making a specialty of stock raising; Nancy, who married C. C. Davis, of Dudley township, and they have two children; John, deceased, who left two children; Grace E., born in 1868; Flora A., born in 1869, married John McCullough, a farmer of Dudley township, and they have seven children; and Hosea E., who married Bertha Smiley, is a farmer of Dudley township, and they have five children.

On February 8, 1880, Mrs. Morrison married Lorenzo T. Calvin, and they became the parents of two daughters, namely: Cora E., who married H. A. Wilson, living near Kenton, and they have three children; and Minnie married Ed Daniels, a farmer living near Kenton, and they have two children.

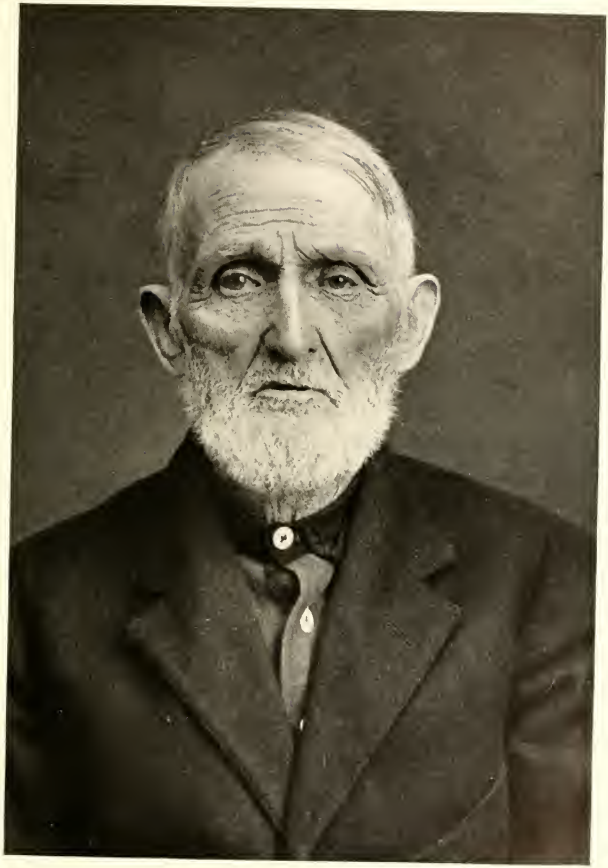
Mrs. Calvin is a woman of strong will and brave character. During the years she lived a widow she was untiring in her efforts to keep up the standard of the farm and rear her children in the way they should go. She had a hard duty to perform, and never faltered in her ambition to do it in the very best manner that lay in her power. She is well known in the community, where she is highly respected for her many good qualities of mind and heart. She has a multitude of friends, and is a woman of unusual intelligence and business judgment.

William I. Witcraft, now retired from active business and living at Mt. Victory, Ohio, is known throughout the community as "Uncle Billy." He was born in Warren county, Ohio, February 22, 1822, and is a son of George and Amelia (Golden) Witcraft. George Witcraft was the son of Isaiah and Elizabeth Witcraft, the former of whom died in New Jersey in 1830, at the age of seventy-two years. George Witcraft was born in 1801, in New Jersey, and died in 1855; he was a farmer, brick layer and mason, and came to Ohio at the age of eighteen years. He took up land in Logan county and carried on farming there until 1852, when he came to Mt. Victory, where he died. His widow died in 1885, at the age of eighty-two. Of their eleven children only two survive, namely: William I. and Elizabeth Hill, wife of James Boyd.

William Isaiah Witcraft attended the public schools and afterward learned the trade of brick and stone mason. When he reached his majority he began working on his own account, and on January 13, 1896, came to live with his sister in Hardin county. He spent some time with his sister and went back and forth between her home and his daughter's home. Mr. Witcraft identified himself with the financial affairs of Mt. Victory and invested in many enterprises. In 1890 he founded the Mt. Victory Bank, serving as president of the same until 1905.

Mr. Witcraft has been very generously disposed toward many worthy objects tending towards the growth and progress in Mount Victory, and its citizens have reason to feel very kindly and gratefully toward such a benefactor. He donated four thousand dollars toward the erection of the Methodist church, one of the finest edifices in Hardin county, a sum of seventeen hundred dollars to the Ohio Northern University and one thousand dollars to the Old People's Home in Cincinnati. He was, during his active business life, one of the most progressive and enterprising business men in the county, but alway found time to consider the needs of any institution for the benefit of the public. He gave freely to churches of any denomination needing pecuniary assistance within many miles of Mount Victory, and though now advanced in years he still takes an active interest in the cause of charity and the Gospel. As his business enterprises have been successful and he has gained in wealth he has felt it a privilege to help others less fortunate. He is an earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and has served sixty years as a trustee and steward as well as being a class leader. Politically Mr. Witcraft is a Republican, though he has never cared for public office.

Mr. Witcraft was industrious and ambitious from early youth, and as the oldest son was of great assistance to his father in clearing land. The original farm consisted of four hundred acres. Later Mr. Witcraft cleared land for himself, at first clearing ten acres and building a cabin with no floor or doors. His father was of English descent and his mother's family came to Warren county, Ohio, from Kentucky. His family has been well known in Hardin county more than half a century, and they have been universally esteemed and respected. Several years



W. J. Witcraft.

ago Mr. Witcraft divided his large real estate holdings among his two children, thus giving each a very good financial start.

Mr. Witcraft married Margaret Wallace, who died in 1894, at the age of seventy-seven years, and they had three children, one of whom survives, Sarah Elizabeth, wife of R. W. Williams, a farmer of Logan county, Ohio. Mr. Witcraft has ten grandchildren and twenty great-grandchildren; he lives with a son-in-law.

Miniter J. Robinson.—Farming offers a very profitable field of endeavor in Hardin county, Ohio, and among the successful men engaged in this industry is Miniter J. Robinson, of Dudley township, who was born on the old Robinson homestead, September 8, 1852, son of Silas and Rebecca (Paxton) Robinson, the former deceased and the latter now living on the home farm. The parents are given mention at length in connection with the sketch of Mrs. Rebecca Robinson, found in another page of this work.

Miniter J. Robinson received a good education in the public schools, but as his father died when he was twelve years old his days at school were necessarily cut short, he being the oldest child. He tried to take his father's place in the work of carrying on the farm, and though so young did nobly, remaining on the farm until 1873, when he was married and took active management of affairs, which he continued until 1905, and in that year became manager of the well-known Wessling farm, sometimes known as the old Wheeler farm, in Dudley township. Here he has a large enterprise under his care, having five assistants under his direction, and he carries on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale. He also owns one hundred and thirteen acres himself, a part of the old homestead.

On December 25, 1873, Mr. Robinson married Serena E. Archer, born May 4, 1855, at Rushsylvania, Ohio, daughter of Nicholas and Margaret (Bayles) Archer, the former living in Buck township, at the age of eighty-three years, and the latter deceased. Mrs. Robinson has two brothers and two sisters living. To her and her husband children were born as follows: Orla E. married Lola Goff, and they live on the home farm; Oscar H., also on the home farm, married Clara Collins and they have one child, Ona; Blanch, wife of John Sieg, a farmer of Taylor Creek township, and they have one child, Edward; Florence, wife of Charles Higgins, an engineer, of Cleveland, Ohio, and they have one child, Rachel J.; Ruah, wife of Charles Smith, a farmer of Hale township; and Paul, at home.

Mrs. Robinson died February 10, 1909, at the age of fifty-three years, nine months and six days. She was a most estimable woman, and her loss is deeply felt by a large circle of sorrowing friends. She was a very earnest and devout member of the Methodist Protestant church, in whose interests she was an active worker. She was intensely interested in every good work and cause, and many received the benefits of her kind, charitable disposition. She was a woman of lovely character, who made friends easily, and who had the faculty of holding the affection and esteem of all who knew her.

Mr. Robinson is an ardent Republican and an active worker for the party. However, he has lately had little time for political affairs, on account of managing and superintending the work of the large farm of which he is in charge. This farm is mentioned further in connection with the sketch of A. G. Wessling, of Kenton, Ohio, given elsewhere in this work.

Jacob N. Banning, widely known and highly esteemed as a man and a citizen, is numbered among the active and practical workers who are doing so much towards developing and maintaining the agricultural interests of Hepburn, his sound sense and efficient business methods giving him an important place in the community. A native of Hardin county, he was born October 7, 1867, in Dudley township, where his father, the late George Banning, spent his earlier life.

His paternal grandfather, Jacob Banning, migrated from Pennsylvania, his native state, to Ohio, becoming a pioneer of Knox county. He located at Mount Vernon during the first quarter of the nineteenth century and there began to establish a home for himself and family. He died while yet in the prime of a vigorous manhood, in 1832. His wife, whose maiden name was Sophia Zimmerman, was born in Holland, of ancestors noted for their industry and thrift. Left a widow when young, with twelve children to care for, she came during the following year to Dudley township, Hardin county, locating on what is now known as the old Banning homestead, and here brought up her children and educated them, rearing them to lives of usefulness and content.

Born at Mount Vernon, Knox county, Ohio, in 1827, George Banning was but six years of age when he came with his widowed mother and the family to Dudley township. As soon as physically able he began working on the home farm, remaining with his mother until taking unto himself a helpmeet. In the meantime he had bought land lying north of Hepburn, and having settled upon it with his bride he began its improvement. In addition to general farming, he subsequently introduced stock raising, for many years making a specialty of breeding sheep and horses, and continued thus engaged until his death, in 1889. He married Nancy J. Smith, who was born in 1845, and is a sister of E. E. Smith, of whom a brief sketch may be found on another page of this volume. Ten children blessed their union, as follows: Jacob N., the subject of this sketch; Nathan, a ranchman in California; George A., of Hepburn, engaged in farming; Mary, wife of M. Everhast, a farmer in Dudley township; William, of Hepburn; Frank, engaged in ranching in California; Howard, a farmer in Winchester, Indiana; Avis, wife of E. Dickerson, of Stark county, Ohio; Inez, twin sister of Avis, living at home; and John, living at home.

Leaving home at the age of twenty years, Jacob N. Banning worked as a farm hand in Iowa for a year, also following the trade of a barber to some extent. He subsequently spent one year in Colorado and New Mexico. While in Colorado he opened a claim, managed a road house and also engaged in teaming, carrying passengers mostly to near-by places. Returning then to Dudley township, Mr. Banning had charge of

the parental acres for seven years, afterwards renting adjoining land for five years. Buying then his present farm in Hepburn, he has since been prosperously engaged in its management, and in addition to his agricultural labors has followed his trade of a barber, being one of the most popular tonsorial artists of the place.

Mr. Banning married, in 1891, Emma E. Shaffner, who was born November 5, 1870, in Hardin county. Her father, Frederick Shaffner, a native of Switzerland, was a moulder by trade, and after coming to this country followed it first in Buffalo, New York, and afterwards in Columbus, Ohio. Locating in Hardin county in 1860, he bought land and was employed in tilling the soil until his death, at the age of seventy-five years, in 1906. To him and his wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Amneg, five children were born, namely: Elizabeth, wife of William Gaston, a farmer in Kenton; Callie, who married John Vogel, a farmer near Dunkirk; Fred, engaged in farming in Dudley township; Eva, deceased; and Mrs. Banning. Mrs. Shaffner is still living, being now seventy-five years of age. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Banning four children have been born, namely: Amy, born in 1891; Eva, born in 1893; Ralph, deceased; and Ruth, born in 1902. Mr. Banning is a stanch Democrat in politics, but has never sought public office, his private affairs engrossing his time and attention.

Mrs. Clara Shark Lingo was born January 19, 1858, in Union county, Ohio, and is a daughter of Simon and Marion (Weiggle) Shark, the former a brother of Jesse Shark, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. Shark died in 1902, at the age of eighty-one years, and his wife died in 1895, at the age of sixty-nine.

On November 29, 1885, Clara Shark married Alvin Lingo, a farmer born on the Lingo homestead March 10, 1856, and a prosperous farmer of Dudley township. He was a son of James H. Lingo, who died in 1889, at the age of seventy-four years. He was a native of Sussex county, Delaware, and was the first of the Lingo family to settle in Hardin county, locating northeast of the present home in 1839. However, through a defect in his title he lost his first farm and purchased the present home, where he farmed all his life. He is a member of the United Brethren church and was one of its founders. Though a Republican he is not actively interested in political matters, although he served as trustee. He married Emeline Kemper, born in 1816, daughter of Samuel and Catherine (Sheets) Kemper. She was a native of Virginia and died in 1888. The grandfather, John Lingo, married Patience Dodds; he was a planter and slave owner in Virginia.

James Lingo and his wife endured the hardships of pioneer life, and at one time had but one pair of shoes between them. He paid his first tax with silver half-dollars which had been given him by his mother.

Al Lingo attended public school until eighteen years of age, and then farmed for his father until the time of his marriage. He then purchased the old Fisher home, which is still the family home. He married first, at the age of twenty-two years, October 10, 1875, Clara Fisher, who died in 1883, at the age of twenty-seven years. She was a

daughter of Edwin and Rachel (Banning) Fisher. The Fisher family is given mention at length in connection with the sketch of Azel Ballinger, found elsewhere in this work. Mr. Lingo and his wife had children as follows: Clara Edna, wife of M. Harvey (mentioned elsewhere in this work), of Mt. Victory, and James, a hardware merchant of Hepburn, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. Lingo married for his second wife Clara Shark, and to this marriage two children were born: George, a merchant of Hepburn, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work; and Holmes B., born February 28, 1892, living at home. Mrs. Lingo is one of nine children who survive. Mr. Lingo has brothers and sisters as follows: James H., a farmer of Dudley township; Edward, a merchant of Larue; Lafayette, a farmer; and Patience, wife of Joseph Smith, a farmer.

For the past twenty-five years Mr. Lingo has been a member of the school board, and he is a member of the United Brethren church, as is his wife. They are well known in Hardin county, and have a host of friends. They have a pleasant home, and are highly esteemed by all who know them. Mr. Lingo carries on general farming and raises some stock.

James Lingo, a successful hardware merchant of Hepburn, Ohio, was born in Dudley township, Hardin county, April 27, 1881, and is a son of Alvin and Clara (Fisher) Lingo, both also natives of Dudley township. Alvin Lingo was born March 10, 1856, a son of James H. and Emeline (Kemper) Lingo, who settled in Dudley township, Hardin county, among the early settlers, and lived on a farm the remainder of their lives. When James H. Lingo and his wife first came to Ohio they endured many hardships, and at first possessed but one pair of shoes between them, so that whichever one had outdoor work to do, wore the shoes at the time. He was born in Delaware, November 16, 1814, and his wife, a native of Virginia, was born December 21, 1816.

Alvin Lingo is a farmer, and became a prominent citizen of Dudley township. He is a member of the United Brethren church, a strong Republican, and is well known in the vicinity of his home. He served many years as a member of the school board of Dudley township. His wife was a daughter of Edwin and Rachel (Banning) Fisher, the latter born March 27, 1822, and died in 1858. Clara (Fisher) Lingo was born May 31, 1857, and died August 25, 1883.

Besides James Lingo his parents had but one child, Clara Edna, born July 6, 1879, wife of M. O. Harvey, a merchant of Mt. Victory. Alvin Lingo married for his second wife Clara Shark, born January 19, 1858, a daughter of Simon and Maria (Wiggle) Shark, of Madison county, Ohio. Of this marriage were born two children, namely: George A., born May 7, 1887, married Edith Clement and is a clerk in Hepburn for his brother; and Holmes, born February 28, 1892, unmarried and living with his parents on the farm.

The early days of James Lingo were spent in his native township, and he attended the public schools until sixteen years of age; he remained with his parents until he was of age and taught school to earn his way through a two years' course at Ada University. Mr. Lingo

Jasper N Richardson

embarked in his present business at Hepburn in 1905, and has been successful from the start. He now owns one of the largest hardware and agricultural implement establishments in this section of the country, and does an annual business of some twenty thousand dollars. When he first started in this business he purchased a half interest in the store of J. C. Noyes, and in February, 1906, bought the entire business. He is an enterprising and wide-awake business man and has won his present standing and financial success through his own efforts. Politically he is a Republican, actively interested in local affairs, and now holds the office of township clerk.

Mr. Lingo married September 24, 1903, Anna Robinson, born April 27, 1885, in Marion county, Ohio, daughter of Willis and Abbie (Thew) Robinson, who now live in Montgomery township. Willis is a son of Alexander and Sarah (Carter) Robinson, the former a farmer and still living at the age of seventy-six years, and his wife died in 1898, at the age of sixty-two years. Willis Robinson was born August 27, 1858, and is a farmer; his wife was born March 18, 1860. Mr. Lingo and his wife have three children, namely: Pauline, born November 27, 1904; Thela, January 11, 1907; and James, Jr., September 29, 1908.

Jasper Newton Richardson is one of the prominent men of Mt. Victory and the president of the Mt. Victory State Bank. He was born in Kenton, Ohio, September 6, 1846, a son of Aaron Richardson and a grandson on the paternal side of Barnett Richardson, a Virginia farmer, and of Elizabeth Jenkins, his wife. Barnett Richardson came to Champaign county, Ohio, and later to Hale township, Hardin county, locating near Mt. Victory, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was a member of the Free Will Baptist church, and in politics was identified with both the Whig and Republican parties. Aaron Richardson, his son, after leaving the school room followed the carpenter's trade until the age of forty years at Kenton Ohio, and he then bought a farm in Union county, but selling that property in 1902 he retired from an active business life and is now living in Toledo, Ohio, having reached the age of ninety-one years. He too is a member of the Free Will Baptist church. His first wife bore the maiden name of Maria Topliff, and she died in 1848, when but twenty-one years of age. She was a daughter of Horatio Topliff, from the State of Connecticut, and Jasper Newton was her only child. Mr. Richardson subsequently married Clarinda Young, also deceased, and she became the mother of five children: Benton R., living in Hale township; James C., whose home is in California; Moody, living in Toledo; Wheeler, of Union county, Ohio; and Maria, wife of Abner Baldwin, also in California.

After leaving school at the age of twenty years Jasper N. Richardson farmed with his grandfather until his marriage. At the age of seventeen, on the 22nd of February, 1864, at Kenton, he enlisted for service in the Civil war, joining Company A, Eighty-second Ohio Infantry, and going with his command to Bridgeport, Alabama, he was engaged in guard duty, and following his participation in the Atlanta campaign and his march with Sherman to the sea he was

sent to Washington, D. C., and then to Louisville, Kentucky, where he was mustered out of the service on the 20th of July, 1865. Returning to his home he again took up the work of the farm in connection with the lumber business, and continued actively in those occupations until 1900 he became a stockholder and the vice-president of the Mt. Victory State Bank and in 1907 he was made the president of the bank, one of the strongest financial institutions of Hardin county.

On the 24th of November, 1884, Mr. Richardson was married to Christina E. Reams, who was born November 24, 1846, near Zanesfield in Logan county, Ohio, and she died on the 29th of January, 1909, in Mt. Victory. She was a daughter of J. H. and Mary (McDonald) Reams, and the former born in the old block house at Zanesfield, February 5, 1813, was a farmer and a local minister in the Methodist Episcopal church. He fought the Indians with General Hull in the Black Feet war, and died on the 26th of February, 1878, in Mt. Victory. Mrs. Reams was born December 12, 1816, in Alleghany county, Pennsylvania, and she died in Mt. Victory on the 8th of January, 1900. John H. Reams and Mary McDonald were married on the 26th of July, 1833. Mrs. Richardson was an active and valued member of the Methodist church. She was also associated with the Rebekah lodge of Odd Fellows as its president and was a member of the Woman's Relief Corps. She died without issue and her life was devoted to her home, to her husband and to her many friends. She was a lady of the most sterling traits of character, loved and esteemed by all who knew her. Mr. Richardson is a member of the Masonic order at Kenton, affiliating with the Blue Lodge No. 154, with the Commandery No. 58, with the Chapter and with the Council No. 65. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Kenton. He supports the principles of the Republican party, and he has served Mt. Victory as member of its council.

John Oliver Dunson, a farmer living at Hepburn, Ohio, is a native of Hardin county, born on the old family homestead July 25, 1852, son of Lewis and Margaret (Plewes) Dunson, a sketch of whom will be found in connection with that of W. M. Dunson. The youth of John O. Dunson was spent on his father's farm and he attended school in the neighborhood, receiving a good common school education. When he was about twenty-two years of age he began working at the trade of carpenter and followed the same until he reached the age of thirty. He worked at farming after he gave up work at his trade, and in 1892 bought a farm south of Hepburn, which he sold in 1895 and moved to Hepburn. He followed his trade with good success many years, and in 1900 bought his present farm of fifty-three acres, which he still works. He has won success through his own efforts, and has always been very ambitious and energetic. He has ever exhibited strict honesty and integrity in his business dealings, and in all transactions has proven his sound judgment and sagacity.

In 1882 Mr. Dunson married Josephine Hatcher, who was born in Hale township, May 9, 1862, daughter of Nathanal O. and Elizabeth

(Harple) Hatcher. Mr. Hatcher was born in Logan county, Ohio, and died March 2, 1881, at the age of thirty-nine years; his widow survived him many years and died March 7, 1902, at the age of seventy years. Nathanal Hatcher was born November 28, 1842, and was a son of Daniel Hatcher, a native of Virginia, whose widow came to Hardin county to live with her son Nathanal and died in 1861. Elizabeth Harple was a daughter of Conrad and Magdalene Harple, who moved from Pennsylvania to Carroll county, Ohio, and eight years later moved to Hardin county, where he died June 12, 1870, and his widow died July 8, 1877. Besides Mrs. Dunson her parents had children as follows: John, a farmer living near Mt. Victory; George, a farmer living in Texas; Emma, who married Charles Burger, and is now deceased; Harry, a farmer living near Mt. Victory. Mr. Hatcher and his wife lived for some time on a farm in Logan county, Ohio, and in 1860 moved to Hardin county and carried on farming. The family spent thirty-three years on the farm, remaining there some time after Mr. Hatcher's death, and then moved to Mt. Victory, where Mrs. Hatcher died. Mr. Hatcher enlisted in 1862, in the One Hundred and Twenty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served until the end of the war. He was captured and sent to Libby prison, but was later exchanged. At the close of the war he returned home and resumed farming. Mrs. Dunson is a member of the Christian church.

To Mr. Dunson and his wife children have been born as follows: Goldie L., born in 1887, living in Kenton; Maud Oma, born in 1890, teaching school; and Zelma Emma, born in 1892, attending school. Mr. Dunson is a member of the Maccabees. Politically he is a Republican, though he has never held public office.

Frank Wheeler, a prosperous and substantial farmer of Dudley township, Hardin county, Ohio, is the last one in Hardin county of the well-known Wheeler family who kept the historic Wheeler Tavern for several years. Mr. Wheeler was born in the Wheeler Tavern, April 7, 1851, and is a son of Amos and Maria (Banning) Wheeler. Amos Wheeler came to Hardin county with his parents when twelve years of age. They built the Wheeler Tavern and also conducted a farm. His father remained with his parents until twenty-six years of age, then carried on farming, renting land from his parents ten years, during which time he lived with his wife at the tavern. He took possession of the tavern and conducted a grocery store in connection with it, these enterprises being turned over to him by his parents after his marriage.

Amos Wheeler, in partnership with a brother, opened a general store and warehouse at Larue, which they continued four years, when Amos began farming in Dudley township. In December, 1860, Amos Wheeler enlisted in the Eighty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry and served to the end of the war. He participated in many engagements, was promoted to rank of lieutenant and later to that of captain. When he was mustered out he returned home and lived five years on the old homestead, where his death occurred. He was a member of the Baptist church, politically was a Republican and held many township offices. He died

in 1870, at the age of fifty-one years. He married Marie Banning, who died in 1907, at the age of eighty-two years. She was a daughter of Jacob and Sophia (Zimmerman) Banning. Besides Frank Wheeler, his parents had children as follows: Portius, of California; Alice, of California; Eva, deceased; Amy, a teacher in California; and Maud, deceased. Sophia Banning came to Hardin county from Knox county, Ohio, a widow with twelve children, and located on a claim of six hundred acres which her husband had purchased before his death. She came to this land in 1838, and by her energy and thrift, with the help of her children, was able to rear them in comfort and carry on her farm in a creditable manner. She was the foremost pioneer woman of her time, and her brave spirit was greatly admired by all. She formed the first Methodist class in Dudley township, and was active in religious matters.

The father of Amos, Portius Wheeler, was born in Vermont, and died in Hardin county, Ohio, in 1874, at the age of seventy-eight years. He moved to Ohio when a young man, settling in Marion county and in 1833 he removed to Hardin county, locating where the old Wheeler Tavern now stands. He first erected a log house opposite the tavern and in 1836 erected that celebrated building which has been a landmark for so many years. He also carried on farming and conducted a general store as well. After the advent of the railroad he devoted his whole time to his farming interests. He married Jane Burnsides, who died in 1870, at the age of seventy years. To them eight children were born, of whom one still survives, Nelson.

Frank Wheeler spent his youth on a farm and acquired his education in the public schools. After the death of his father he remained with his mother until thirty-two years of age, when he married and located on Wild Cat creek, remaining there until 1901. He then located on his present fine farm near Hepburn, where he has been very successful, especially in stock raising. He is one of the well-known and popular citizens of the county, and is highly esteemed by all who know him. His father and grandfather were actively engaged in business in Hardin county for many years, and did their share toward the progress and development of the community. Mr. Wheeler is a Republican in politics, and served six years as township treasurer.

On November 12, 1883, Mr. Wheeler married Susan Frazer, who was born November 12, 1859, daughter of Rusellus Frazer, of Portage county, who settled in Goshen township, Hardin county, in 1855. Mr. Frazer died in 1885, at the age of fifty-eight years. He married Nancy Barrett, of Muskingum county, formerly a teacher. His father, Joseph Frazer, was a native of Vermont, and married Susan Poe, daughter of Adam Poe, the well-known old Indian fighter, who killed Big Foot, an Indian chief, in a fight or duel which took place in the water. Besides Mrs. Wheeler, R. Frazer and his wife had children as follows: Alice, now Mrs. George Johnson, of Goshen; Chalmers, a farmer of Hale township; and Courtney also a farmer. Mrs. Wheeler is a member of the Methodist church and is also connected with the Ladies' Aid, and the Home Missionary Society, of which she is corresponding secretary.

SAMUEL HILE.—The Hile family has been well known in Hardin county for over a half century, and one representative of the family who has attained a very fair degree of success is Samuel Hile, a prominent farmer of Dudley township, who is now serving as a justice of the peace. Mr. Hile was born in the township where he now resides, January 30, 1866, and is a son of Nicholas and Anna (Freudiger) Hile, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Switzerland. Nicholas Hile was born in 1832, in Hesse Castle, Germany, and in 1851 came to the United States with a brother, locating in Kenton, Ohio, where for a year he was employed in helping to build the Big Four railroad. At that time they laid the old "T" rails on ties lengthwise on the track. He then farmed a year and for a year worked on the railroad as brakeman. He next engaged to work for Wheeler & DeLong, of Larue, and when the firm failed he received in lieu of the money due him a deed for seventy-five acres of land now in the central point of Dudley township. He moved to this land and erected a log house where the present house now stands. Nicholas Hile enlisted for ninety days and served in Company H, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Ohio, then returned home and resumed farming on his homestead, which he continued until his death, in 1891. He was formerly a member of the Methodist church, but later joined the United Brethren church. Politically he was a Democrat, and was a patriotic, useful citizen, who did his duty by his adopted country, in time of peace or war. He was honored by receiving an "honorable mention" certificate voted him by congress, signed by E. Stanton and Abraham Lincoln. His wife was born March 24, 1840, and now lives with her son on the old homestead. She was brought to America by her parents when six years of age, and they settled near the Hile family. Her father, Samuel Freudiger, was born in 1806 and died in 1857; he settled in Dudley township in 1846, and there spent the remainder of his life. His wife, Verina Meyer, was born in 1808, and died in 1856. Besides Samuel, the surviving children are: George, living on the homestead with his mother; Verina, wife of B. Baughman, a farmer of Dudley township, has five children; Anna, wife of Albert Bodine, of Dudley township, has three children; Mary, wife of Luther Witham, a farmer of Hardin county; and Mattie, wife of William Wolf, a farmer of Goshen township.

Samuel Hile received a good education in the public schools and then engaged in farming on his father's farm. He taught school three terms. He then settled down to farming, which he has since successfully carried on. In the spring of 1905 he located on the parental homestead of sixty-two acres, located in a fine farming district and well adapted to the raising of stock, of which he makes a specialty. He is an enterprising, wide-awake farmer who makes a study of modern methods and adopts those he considers the best. He is a man of strict integrity and unquestioned honesty, and is well known in the county. He is a member of the United Brethren church, of which he is a trustee. He is an ardent Democrat, active in the interests of his party, has held the office of township treasurer, and since 1900 has been a justice of the peace.

In 1903 Mr. Hile married Mary Dorn, who was born March 15, 1867,

daughter of Conrad Dorn, who died in 1880, at the age of fifty-two years, ten months and three days. He was a native of Germany and came to America at the age of twenty-three years, settling in Kenton, Ohio, where he worked for the railroad seven years, some of the time working for thirty-five cents a day. He bought a farm, which he cleared, built a log cabin and a double log barn of black walnut. One building of walnut which he built is still standing. He and his wife came from Germany on the same boat; she was Catherine Ault, who was born December 12, 1829. Mr. Dorn and his wife worked with a team of oxen on their land, she driving and he holding the plow. She died February 3, 1892. Besides Mrs. Hile they had children as follows: Kate, wife of William Evans; Elizabeth, wife of J. Uhlisinger, of Cleveland, Ohio; Cordelia, wife of E. Moses, of Kenton; Nick, a farmer; William, a stock farmer living near Kenton; and George, also a farmer. Mrs. Hile had been married before, in 1887, to Joseph M. Dodds, son of Thomas Dodds, a Hardin county pioneer, and he died in 1892, at the age of forty-five years; to this marriage was born one son, Earnest Conrad Dodds, twenty-one years of age and living at the old home. He married Tena Lutz. One child has been born of Mrs. Hile's second marriage, D. Walter Hile.

Andrew Leverett Shaw.—Among the men who have helped very materially in the welfare and prosperity of Hardin county, Ohio, are members of the Shaw family, who have lived in the county more than forty years. A worthy representative of this family is Andrew Leverett Shaw, who has now retired from active life and lives on his fine farm in Dudley township. He was born June 28, 1853, in Columbus, Ohio, and is a son of Volney Shaw, a native of the state of New York, who was born May 16, 1827. Volney Shaw moved to Columbus, Ohio, in 1850, and established one of the largest hotels of the city, where he became fairly successful, but during the war he met with serious reverses and in 1868 he located in Larue, Marion county, where he conducted a small restaurant and a meat market, and also engaged in several other lines, being an enterprising, energetic man, who took advantage of his opportunities. He also dealt in timber and bought and sold stock. He lived in Larue some two years and then removed to Dudley township, where with his son, Andrew L., he took a lien of timber land, which they cleared. At the expiration of his lease he went to Findlay, but on account of ill health returned to the home of his son, where the remainder of his life was spent. He died November 19, 1907. Mr. Shaw was an ardent Democrat, active in political affairs, and served in several local offices. In 1851 he married Edith E. Park, born December 12, 1832, daughter of Warren Park, who died when she was a child. Mrs. Shaw survives her husband, having now reached the age of seventy-eight years, and lives with her son.

Andrew L. Shaw attended school until sixteen years of age. He worked in timber five years after leaving school and then took up a small farm and cut timber in the fall and winter on his present homestead, which at first comprised but eighty-nine acres. However, by persistent

effort and hard work he improved his land and added to it until he owned one of the best farms and most modern and handsome homes in the county. He and Ira Williams are the two oldest and probably the most popular farmers in Dudley township, and all respect their achievements in the way of attaining success by their own efforts. Five years after locating on his small farm, Mr. Shaw bought one hundred and twelve acres, where he carried on general farming and later added more, now owning two hundred and four acres of excellent farm land. He carried on his farm as a business proposition, and made the most of his land, making a specialty of raising and shipping sheep, cattle and other stock. He has been able to make money by his hard work and also knew how to invest it to the best advantage, and has always been interested in many enterprises outside his farm. The first house on his land was a small farm cabin, and in 1900 Mr. Shaw erected a handsome home, one of the finest in the eastern part of the county.

Politically Mr. Shaw is an ardent Democrat, and does yeoman service for his party. He often served as a delegate to conventions, and has held many local offices; he is now a member of the board of assessors. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at Mt. Victory, and has passed through the chairs, now serving as trustee and is a member of the Knights of Pythias at Mt. Victory and of the Elks at Kenton.

On the 22d of March, 1881, Mr. Shaw married Sarah Rebecca Craig, who was born in 1857, on the farm adjoining that of Mr. Shaw, a daughter of Thomas Craig, who was a native of Scotland. They settled first in Ashland county, but later removed to Dudley township, Hardin county, locating in the latter place in 1862. He died in 1882, and his widow died in 1888. Mrs. Shaw had one sister, Elizabeth, widow of Cyrus Wiggel. She also had one brother, Matthew Craig, who lived on a farm adjoining that of Mr. Shaw. Mrs. Shaw died in 1889, after having suffered great pain for twelve days as the result of an accident which befell her while she was making soap in the yard. While taking care of the soap, which was boiling over a fire she fell in a faint, her clothes taking fire so that she was very badly burned. However, she was able to walk to the house afterward, but never recovered from her fright and injuries. She was a patient sufferer, and in her many trials displayed a bravery and Christian fortitude that were wonderful. She was a most devout member of the Methodist church, and always active in church work, her loss being mourned by the members of the church especially and by the community as a whole. As she had lived, firm in her faith, so she died, being fully prepared to meet this peacefully and bravely, sustained by her unfaltering trust in the future which awaited her on the farther shore. She passed away, surrounded by her sorrowing family, herself the calmest of them all, though inexpressibly saddened at the inevitable parting. She had been a kind and loving wife, a good neighbor and true friend, and had done her duty by all, and her life had been an inspiration to many.

Samuel Kumley, a man of excellent business ability and tact, has built up a profitable trade as a merchant in Pfeiffer, Hardin county, where he is numbered among the leading citizens of the place. A son of Samuel Kumley, Sr., he was born April 22, 1855, near Kenton, Ohio, of Swiss ancestry.

Samuel Kumley, Sr., was born and educated in Switzerland, where he was for many years engaged in mercantile persuits, his birth occurring in 1819. Emigrating to America in 1845, he bought a tract of land in Hardin county, and in common with the other pioneers of that neighborhood began the improvement of a farm. He met with good results as an agriculturist, and from that time until his death, in 1861, was actively engaged in tilling the soil. He was twice married, his first wife, Elizabeth Kumley, dying in early womanhood, in Switzerland, where she spent her entire life, leaving two children, namely: Jacob, engaged in farming in Wabash county, Indiana, and Elizabeth, widow of F. Beck, late of Hardin county. He married his second wife in this country, Susanna Strahn, a daughter of J. Strahn, who emigrated from Switzerland to the United States, coming at the same time that Mr. Kumley, Sr., did, and, like him, locating as a farmer in Hardin county, Ohio. She died in February, 1909, aged seventy-seven years. Three children were born to them, namely: John, a farmer in Wabash county, Indiana; Mary, wife of William Strahn, of Kenton, Ohio; and Samuel, the subject of this sketch.

Leaving school at the age of fifteen years, Samuel Kumley remained with his parents until coming of age, when he began farming on his own account, renting land for three or four years. Subsequently buying land in Dunkirk, he carried on general farming for three years, after which he lived in the village of Dunkirk for a year. Subsequently locating in Dudley township, Mr. Kumley rented the old Rubin farm, which he managed successfully until selling at an advantage in 1887. Making then a decided change of residence and occupation, he embarked in mercantile pursuits, buying his present store, which is located in Pfeiffer, opposite the old Wheeler tavern, on the Sandusky road. A man of honest integrity, upright in his dealings, Mr. Kumley has gained the confidence of the people with whom he is associated, and has built up up an extensive and lucrative trade.

In 1887 Mr. Kumley married Elizabeth Kanzig, who was born in 1853 in Ohio, a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Banker) Kanzig, neither of whom are now living. She passed to the life beyond July 9, 1906, leaving one child, Edna E., who is now, in 1909, attending the Kenton High School. Mr. Kumley married for his second wife, in 1907, Elizabeth Smith, who was born October 31, 1874, a daughter of T. J. Smith. Her father was born seventy-one years ago, and is now living retired from active pursuits, having as a practical and prosperous farmer accumulated a competency. He married Sarah Finnerty, who died in 1888, at the age of fifty-five years, and of their union four children were born, namely: Janice, living with her father; Arvilla, wife of C. A. Stevenson, who is engaged in farming near Kenton; May, wife of J. Stair, a farmer, living in Washington township; and Elizabeth, now Mrs. Kumley.

S. Kumley

Jacob George Casper.—Among the most prominent and best-known farmers of Dudley township, Hardin county, Ohio, is Jacob George Casper, a native of the township, born on the old homestead September 16, 1864. He is a son of John F. and Elizabeth (Sherman) Casper. J. F. Casper was born in Berlin, Germany, in 1820, and came to America at the age of nineteen years. His father, John Casper, came to America some years later and lived with his son until his death, at the age of eigthy-one years.

John F. Casper was a brick molder by trade and settled first at Columbus, Ohio; he moved to Nashville, Tennessee, where he lived some time and then returned to Columbus, and bought one hundred acres of land near that city. Later he located in Dudley township Hardin county, where the remainder of his life was spent. He died August 28, 1907, and his loss was widely felt. He was a member of the Reformed church and was active in every good cause. His first wife was Mary Cook, and to this union three children were born, namely: John A., of Cessna township; Lonisa, wife of Jacob Sherman, of Goshen township; and Mary, wife of John Sherman of Kenton, Ohio. Mrs. Casper died. Mr. Casper married for his second wife Elizabeth Sherman, who was born in Switzerland and came to America with her parents when five years of age. She was a daughter of John and Elizabeth Sherman, and is still living, at the age of sixty-six years. To Mr. Casper's second marriage the following children were born: Mollie, wife of William Pheiffer, of Goshen township; Callie, wife of Otto Ries, of Goshen township; Ella, wife of Herman Ries, of Dudley township; Maggie, wife of W. Knapp, of Pleasant township; Tillie, wife of George Wolf, of Pleasant township; Laura, at home; William, of California; Paul, of Dudley township; and Jacob George the subject of this sketch.

After reaching the age of fifteen years Jacob G. Casper began working for his father. He attended the country schools and remained at home until twenty-four years of age. He then began carrying on his own farm near the old homestead, where he built a house. Four years later he removed to the Holland farm, where he spent six years and then removed to his present home. He has one hundred and seventy-six acres of land, having purchased one hundred and eleven acres of the old Casper homestead in 1908. He carries on general farming, paying special attention to stock-raising. He is a member of the Reformed church and is also a member of the Hepburn lodge of Knights of Pythias. Politically he is a Democrat, and although he has never cared for public office he served as trustee of Goshen township.

On February 7, 1889, Mr. Casper married Sophia Margaret Pheiffer, who was born September 21, 1867, in Goshen township, daughter of John and Margaret (Hile) Pheiffer. John Pheiffer was born in Pleasant township, Hardin county, July 13, 1838, and died February 28, 1905, at the age of sixty years. He was the son of Adam and Sophia (Elsessor) Pheiffer, who came from Hessen, Germany, in 1837. His widow, who has now reached the age of sixty-nine years, lives with Mrs. Casper. She was born December 26, 1840, and is a daughter of Nicholas and Elizabeth (Rasenmeyer) Hile, who came from Hessen, Germany,

In 1878 John Pheiffer moved to the old Wheeler farm, which was an old landmark, and Pheiffer Station was named for him. He lived at this historic place which was a tavern at one time, until his death. He was a farmer and also for several years conducted a general store, being also postmaster. The office of postmaster was held by some member of the family for fourteen years. His father Adam Pheiffer, and his wife were among the earliest pioneers of Hardin county. John Pheiffer was a merchant and farmer and conducted a general store for five years, after which he operated a threshing machine for fifteen years. He owns three hundred and seventy acres of land. He died in 1879, at the age of sixty-six years. On June 26, 1859, he married Margaret Hile. Besides Mrs. Casper he and his wife had children as follows: Elizabeth, wife of John Ault, of Larue; William, of Goshen township; Eva, wife of George Banning, of Hepburn; Anna, wife of F. Laubus of Dudley township; Minnie, wife of D. Ward, of Pleasant township; Bessie, wife of B. Hume, of LaRue; John M., of Forest; Joseph, pastor of the Methodist church of Clinton, Missouri; and Earl C., living with Mr. Casper.

Mr. Casper and his wife have three children, as follows: Ray F., born in 1890; Irwin, born in 1898; and Frieda Mabel, born in 1901; all are living at home. Mr. Casper is an enterprising and public spirited citizen and is well known in the community. He is well liked and held in high esteem by his fellows.

George Elsasser.—One of the oldest residents of Dudley township Hardin county, Ohio, is George Elsassar, who is a retired farmer living on his homestead in that township. He was born in Kurhessen, Germany, August 20, 1836. His father, John Elsasser, who was born in 1816, came to America with his parents, Ludwig and Elizabeth (Bohm) Elsasser, in 1850. They settled in Hardin county, where they purchased seventy acres of land, which they cleared. Ludwig Elsasser died two years after reaching Hardin county, at the age of seventy-three years, and his widow survived him two years, passing away at the age of seventy-five years. John Elsasser continued on this farm until his death at the age of seventy-seven years. He was married in Germany, and his wife, who was a daughter of a Mr. Bishop, died at the age of seventy-three years. Mr. Elsasser was a member of the Lutheran church, and very active in political affairs, being a Republican. He was an influential citizen and highly respected in the community. George has two brothers living, Henry and William, the latter an employe at the State Infirmary.

After attending school three months in Hardin county, George Elsasser worked on the farm with his parents. He enlisted in April, 1861, in Company G, Fourth Ohio, for three months, and then at the expiration of his time reenlisted for three years. He was discharged at Camp Keys, Virginia, on account of disability. He served first in the Army of the Potomac and later in the Army of the Cumberland, participating in some of the most important battles of the war. Returning home, he followed farming near Kenton, and also worked forty years with a threshing machine in connection with his farming opera-

tions. Later he moved to the old Smith farm in Pleasant township, also engaged in operating a sawmill three years in Paulding county, and managed a mill in Kentucky for a time. Later he removed to Hardin county and located on the Scioto river, where Pfeiffer is now located. He built a sawmill at Pfeiffer Station, which he carried on twelve years, and in 1897 purchased his present farm, where he carries on general farming and makes a specialty of stock raising, shipping considerable each year. He is accounted one of the representative farmers of the county, where the family is well known. He is a member of the German Lutheran church. He is a Republican in politics and has held several minor township offices. He is industrious and thrifty, and has well earned the rest he is now enjoying. He is a public-spirited and useful citizen, and has many friends.

In 1865 Mr. Elsasser married Catherine Glock, a native of Germany, who died January 19, 1871, at the age of thirty-two years. She was a daughter of Nicholas Glock, and came to America as a girl of fourteen years, being employed in the family of General Robinson until her marriage. The children born to this union were: W. M., deceased; Margaret Bell, wife of George Darling, of Mechanicsburg; and John, who was born July 18, 1871, and now has full charge of his father's farm, managing his entire business, and has operated the threshing machine nineteen years.

Mr. Elsasser married for his second wife Naomi Brown, who was born March 6, 1836, a daughter of Amos and Susan (Bonner) Arhard, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Germany. She came with her husband, Joe Brown, from Union county to Hardin county, in 1867, and there her husband died. She is the mother of seven children, two daughters and five sons, namely: Wallace, Augustus, Adolphus, David, C. B., Caroline and Susan. Mrs. Elsasser is a devout member of the Christian church.

Zell H. Ballinger.—There are many enterprising young farmers in Hardin county, Ohio, who conduct their agricultural operations along scientific lines, and reap the maximum of profit from their land. Among the wide-awake farmers of Dudley township is Zell H. Ballinger, who was born January 5, 1875, son of Thomas and Anna (Bishop) Ballinger, the former a native of Perry township, Logan county, born January 18, 1846, and died in 1888, and the latter, who was born in Zane township, Logan county March 14, 1845, died in March, 1906.

Henry Ballinger, father of Thomas, married Caroline Moore. Thomas Ballinger was married in 1868 and located in Hardin county the following year, on the farm now occupied by his son. He was a prominent farmer owning one hundred and fifteen acres of good land, and became a local preacher for the Methodist Episcopal church, in whose interest he was an active worker. He was a Whig and later became an ardent Republican, and served as treasurer of the township and for years as a member of the school board. He was married in August, 1868, in East Liberty, to Anna Bishop, who was born in Logan county March 14, 1845, to James and Eliza (Inkeep) Bishop, both natives of

Chillicothe. Zell has one brother living, Earl, a farmer of Dudley township, who married Maud Fannen. He has a brother and a sister deceased. The brother, Charles E., lived to the age of thirty-four, dying in 1900. He was the oldest of the children, and was born and raised on the old homestead, like the other boys he became a farmer. He married Lizzie Kelsey, of Dudley township, a daughter of Newton and Rachel Kelsey. They had one son, Lawrence, who is with his mother, a resident of Dudley township.

Zell H. Ballinger attended school until fourteen years of age, receiving a fair education. At that time his father died, and in company with his brother he carried on the farm for his mother until he was twenty-five years of age. He then moved to a farm of his own, where he remained five years, then rented the old Heckerthorn farm three years, after which he came to the homestead where he now resides, he and his brother having purchased the estate. They carry on general farming with success, and are accounted among the leading farmers of the county. The Ballinger family is well known in Hardin county, where they have been prominent for many years. They have always been public-spirited citizens, and interested in the welfare of the community and the cause of progress.

Mr. Ballinger is a stanch Republican and active in the interests of his party, having taken an active part in political matters since attaining his majority. He has served many years as committee-man. He is a prominent Mason, being affiliated with the chapter, council and commandery, as well as the Blue Lodge of Kenton. He also belongs to the Maccabees of Hepburn, and has filled all the chairs in the lodge. He and his wife are devout and earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Kenton.

On April 21, 1896, Mr. Ballinger married Minnie Koch, who was born November 19, 1872, in Dudley township, a daughter of Ludwig and Elizabeth (Blankner) Koch, the former a native of Germany. Mr. Koch died in 1887, at the age of seventy-four years and six months. Upon coming to America he located at Columbus, Ohio, where he worked at his trade of tailor, and later came to Dudley township. Still later he bought a farm near Kenton, where he spent the remainder of his life. His widow is living at Kenton, and is now seventy-one years of age. Mrs. Ballinger has six sisters and two brothers living, namely: John, a farmer living in Michigan; William, a farmer living near Kenton; Lena, who married George Trapp, a carpenter living at Columbus, Ohio; Mary, wife of John Van Fleet, of Kenton; Anna, wife of Henry Bloom, of Kenton; Margaret, wife of C. Robey, of Kenton; Ida, wife of William Haggard, of Kenton; and Lilly, wife of C. Moore, of Kenton.

Mr. Ballinger and his wife have children as follows: Gladys Wilhelmine, born May 27, 1897; Elwood Thomas, born August 22, 1899; and Arthur Ludwig, born April 19, 1909.

Joseph V. Kelly, an intelligent and progressive farmer of Dudley township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born in that township March 12, 1844. His father, Benjamin Kelly, who was born in Pennsylvania, in

1800, came with his family to Ohio in 1835, settling first in Marion county; later he came to Hardin county, where he cleared eighty acres of land and erected a log cabin. In 1847 he erected a small frame house of black walnut, which is still standing on the old homestead. He lived here the remainder of his life, and passed away in 1865. He was a cooper by trade. He was a member of the United Brethren church, and was not actively interested in political matters. Benjamin Kelly married Martha Snoddy, who died in 1871, at the age of seventy years. Mr. Kelly and his wife had fifteen children, of whom Joseph was the youngest son. Besides Joseph three others are living, namely: Isabel, wife of William Davis, a farmer of Dudley township; Lucinda, wife of Samuel Smith; and Ellen, widow of B. Walters, of Columbus, Ohio.

The boyhood of Joseph V. Kelly was spent on a farm and he received his education in the public schools. He helped his father with the duties of the farm until twenty-one years old, then began farming on his own account, renting land. After the death of his father he purchased the shares of the other heirs to the old homestead, and his mother remained with him. In 1891 he erected a modern home, one of the finest residences in the section. He has one hundred and forty acres of good fertile land, where he has for many years carried on farming and stock raising. Mr. Kelly has retired from active work and his son has the principal management of his farm.

Politically Mr. Kelly is a Republican, and active in the interests of his party, although he has never desired to hold public office himself. He is a member of the United Brethren church and has served many years as trustee of the same. Mr. Kelly has for many years been extensively interested in cattle, breeding and shipping Hereford stock.

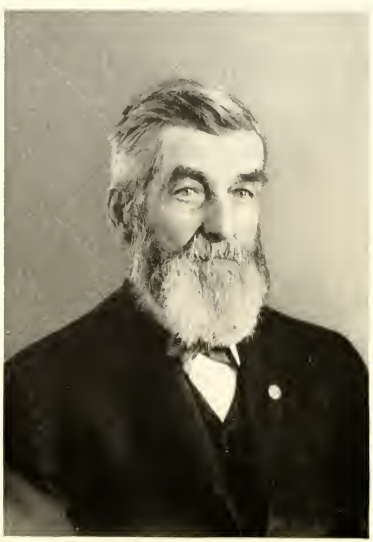
In 1870 Mr. Kelly married Mary C. Lingo, born October 29, 1846, daughter of James H. and Emma (Kepper) Lingo, and they became the parents of three children, two who died in infancy, and James Claude, born in 1874. James C. Kelly has spent his life on a farm and is well fitted to manage one to the best advantage. He married Daisy Cramer, born November 12, 1878, daughter of John and Emma (Willison) Cramer; Mr. Cramer was a farmer of Hancock county, Ohio, and died December 27, 1902, at the age of sixty-two years; his wife is living, at the age of fifty-nine years, in Dudley township. She is a daughter of George Willison and Elizabeth Hazelett. The father of John Cramer, Charles Cramer, was born in 1853, in Germany, on a steamer which was navigating on the Rhine. After migrating to America he settled in Columbus, Ohio, where he followed his trade of shoemaker. He was married at Arlington, in 1836, to Catherine Price, and died in 1866. His son John was born March 27, 1840, in Hancock county. John Cramer was a soldier in the Civil war, having enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Thirty-third Ohio Infantry. He was reported dead but was later found by his father and brought home. James C. Kelly and his wife became the parents of children as follows: Lenard Ray, born August 27, 1899; John Merrill, born February 12, 1901; Laura Dill, born January 16, 1903; Emma Catherine, born April 28, 1905; and Joseph, who died in infancy.

The wife of Joseph V. Kelly died August 24, 1909, and her death was mourned by the entire community. She was for many years an earnest, devout member of the United Brethren church, and active in the Ladies' Aid Society, as well as all other work connected with the church. Her lovely disposition and high character made her greatly beloved, and her presence will be greatly missed in many circles. After leaving school she remained at home until her marriage. Mrs. Kelly was a kind neighbor, always ready to give aid and counsel to the sick and distressed, as well as to lend a helping hand to anyone who called upon her. She was a kind, indulgent mother, a faithful, loving wife, and her sorrowing family have the sympathy of all who know them. She was the fourth child of her parents, and is survived by four brothers and one sister.

Ira Williams.—Many farmers of Hardin county have worked hard for many years to keep their land in good condition and acquire a competence, and have then retired to enjoy the fruits of their labors. Among the successful men of Dudley township, now retired from active life, is Ira Williams, who was born in Genesee county, New York, November 17, 1831, a son of Frederick Williams. The latter was born in Warren, Connecticut, February 10, 1806, and was a son of Thorp and Clarissa (Peters) Williams, the former of whom died in 1867, at the age of eighty-seven. Frederick Williams settled in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, in 1836, and in 1838 removed to Springboro, Pennsylvania, engaging in mercantile business, which he sold in 1840, and followed farming the remainder of his life. He was an enterprising, successful man, and fraternally was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He married Abbie Jenks, who was born in NewYork and died in April, 1882, aged seventy- one years. Of the children of Frederick Williams and his wife, Ira is the only one surviving.

The education of Ira Williams was obtained in Ohio, and at the age of twenty-one years he graduated from the common schools of Jefferson, Ohio. After his marriage he began work for the Lake Shore Railroad Company, at Conneaut, Ohio, in constructing bridges, and a year later removed to Clark county, where he worked at surveying the road from Springfield to Delaware, and later from Springfield to Columbus. In 1855 he removed to Logan county, where he bought a farm, and a year later located in Hardin county, on his present farm, purchasing seven hundred and fifty acres. He has greatly improved his farm, and now has one of the most modern and convenient farm houses in his section of the county. Some six years ago he divided his land among his children. He has now retired from active life and his present farm is managed by renters. He was the largest land owner and most extensive farmer and stockman of Dudley township, where he is widely known and highly esteemed.

Mr. Williams married for his first wife, Hanna Louisa Greene, born May 14, 1834, in Springboro, Pennsylvania, daughter of Josiah Greene. The father was born April 16, 1802, in Wethersfield, New York,



Capt Ira Williams and Wife

dying August 17, 1838, and the mother born April 21, 1804, died December 7, 1866. They had ten children, Mrs. Williams being the eighth child. She died October 17, 1871, leaving children as follows: Ethan, a manufacturer of Kenton, Ohio, married L. Barnett, and they have one child; Homer, deceased, who left two children: Emery, who married Eva Yost, and Edna, wife of D. Baker, who has one child; Abbie, wife of William Hampton, and has two children: Stella, wife of William Wentz, has one child, and Urilla, who married Al Roberts, of Greenup, Illinois, and they have three children; Hattie who married J. Pickett, a carpenter of California, and they have one child, Frederick; Ira, of Marion, Ohio, married Ella Bridget, and they have two children; Ella married William Hampton, of Dudley township, and they have four children; James married Bell Leadman, and they have one child; Frederick, who, at the age of thirteen, was accidentally killed by a gun shot from a neighbor's boy.

Mr. Williams married for his second wife Susan Smith, who was born August 27, 1848, a native of Hardin county, and a daughter of John and Elizabeth (McNeil) Smith, the former a pioneer settler of Pleasant township, Hardin county, who came from Pennsylvania and was a cooper and shoemaker by trade. Elizabeth McNeil was born in Pennsylvania, March 23, 1810. John Smith and his wife have two sons living: Samuel M. and Benjamin F., both farmers in Hardin county; they also have four daughters besides Mrs. Williams. They were parents of fifteen children. John Smith died in 1863 at the age of fifty-five years, and his widow survived him until 1892, passing away at the age of eighty-three. He came to Hardin county with horses and a wagon, with no money, and took up land, by hard work and great economy being able to attain more than ordinary success. He left seven hundred and fifty acres of land. He was a man of untiring energy, and had a good helpmeet in his wife, who was also a good manager and able to meet bravely the rigors and hardships of pioneer existence. Mrs. Williams was the next youngest in the family of seven daughters and eight sons. Mrs. Smith's mother, Anna Eustis McNeil, when seven years of age was captured by the Indians, and held until fourteen years of age, when she was regained by her parents. By his second marriage Mr. Williams had one child, Guy, born December 17, 1892, a graduate of Larue and Ada Universities. Mr. Williams also adopted one child when four years of age, Maude L. Fannon, now the wife of Earl Ballinger, and they have one child, Waldo.

Mr. Williams has always done his full duty as a citizen and patriot, and not only has made a good record in private life, but heard the call of his country in her hour of need. He enlisted on May 2, 1864, in Company I, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Ohio, for one hundred days' service, which he spent in the Shenandoah Valley and at Harper's Ferry. He entered as first lieutenant and was commissioned as captain; he was discharged at Camp Chase. He is a member of Owen Gray Post 274, G. A. R., of La Rue.

Politically Mr. Williams is a Republican, and he has been honored by his fellow-citizens by election to several township offices, in which he

has served creditably. His integrity, honesty and high character are well appreciated by his friends and neighbors, and in all his dealings with his fellows he has shown himself to be prompted by highest principles of honor. He is one of the most popular men in the county, and his opinions are considered with great respect. He does not believe in God, the Bible or a Hereafter and states his reasons with great conviction and earnestness. He is a deep student and a well-known writer, whose pen has furnished articles for the press for a number of years. Although in the matter of religion most of his neighbors do not agree with him, yet all respect his earnestness and full belief in his doctrines, in which he generally follows the noted Bob Ingersoll, of whom he is a firm admirer.

Mrs. Mary Ann Miller.—Many fine farms of Ohio are owned by women, whose husbands or fathers have spent their lives in accumulating land and other possessions, which at their death are left with the dear ones who have helped so much in the acquisition of them. Among the highly esteemed women of Dudley township is Mrs. Mary Ann Miller, widow of the late Andy Miller, of that township. Andy Miller was born in Baden, Germany, August 15, 1827, son of Michael Miller, who died when Andy was six weeks old. Mr. Miller received his education in his native country, where he lived until he reached the age of twenty-four years, and early learned to look out for his own interests. Upon emigrating to the United States he located in Columbus, Ohio, where he spent one year and then removed to Mt. Victory, where he was employed in a sawmill until his marriage, in 1858. He then bought the present homestead of the family, of seventy acres, which he himself cleared, and they were the first settlers in the section. He spent the remainder of his life improving and cultivating his farm, which amply repaid his labor, and being thrifty and industrious he achieved no small degree of success. He died on August 2, 1904, deeply lamented by a large circle of friends. He was a public-spirited and useful citizen, and politically was a Republican, although he never cared for public office. He was a member of the Catholic church. Mr. Miller was a man of strict integrity and honesty, and in his dealings with his fellow-men displayed high character and purpose, and had a reputation for steadfastly keeping his word.

Mr. Miller married Mary Ann Thurman, born August 25, 1834, daughter of George W. Thurman, who died in 1867, at the age of seventy-one years. Mr. Thurman came with his parents, George and Mary Thurman, from Virginia to Chillicothe, Ohio, and about 1834 they settled in Dudley township, Hardin county, where they took up land, which they cleared and improved. They took their grain on horseback to the mill at East Liberty. Mr. Thurman married Margaret Carr, who died in 1879, at the age of seventy-two years. Mrs. Miller has one brother and two sisters living, namely: Zachariah, a farmer of Hardin county; Rebecca, living with her brother; and Matilda, a widow living in Kenton, Ohio. When Mr. Miller and his wife first lived in

Hardin county they were night after night troubled by wolves. Mrs. Miller is a member of the Christian church.

The children born to Mr. Miller and his wife were as follows: Joel C., deceased, who left one daughter, Ivy, who married Will Wess, of Kenton; George Worthington, of Mt. Victory, who married Dose Marshall, and they have one child, Glen; Margaret Ann, who died in infancy; Mathilda, wife of Jacob Weatherhalt, of Kenton, their union being without issue; Peter, at home, and who has one child, Opal; and Andy, who died in infancy.

Mrs. Miller and her son Peter attend to the farm, carrying on general farming. Peter Miller has also been considerably interested in contracting and stock raising. He was reared on a farm and fully understands the details of the work, being able to make the most of the land. He is enterprising and industrious, and the results of his labor are gratifying.

Andy Miller served five years in the German army before coming to the United States, and during the Civil war here he enlisted in Company I, One Hundred and Seventy-ninth Ohio, for one year, serving his full time and being mustered out in 1865. After his return to his farm he was sick two years as a consequence of the devotion he had shown for his adopted country.

William H. Powell is one of the representative young agriculturists of Liberty township and a member of one of the oldest families of Hardin county, a son of Joseph and Olive E. (Henry) Powell, both born in this county, the former in 1850 and the latter in 1854. Both were born in Marion township, and they yet reside there on a farm of eighty-seven acres. He is a grandson on the paternal side of William Powell, who came from his native England to this country at an early age, and he married here Nancy Lyons, of German extraction, they becoming the parents of Joseph, Sarah, George, Elizabeth, John and James. William Powell died in the year of 1859. On the maternal side Mr. Powell is a grandson of David and Jane (Donaldson) Henry, the former also from England. Five children were born to Joseph and Olive (Henry) Powell: Harlan J., now deceased; William H.; O. C.; Stella M.; and Verna F. Stella is the wife of C. L. Mathews. Joseph Powell has been prominently identified with the history of Hardin county from its earliest epoch.

William H. Powell, his son, was born in Marion township of Hardin county September 15, 1875, and the training which he received in its district schools was supplemented by a course at the Ohio Northern University at Ada, and afterward he taught school during five terms. He is now one of the rising young agriculturists of Liberty township, owning a farm of one hundred acres here of splendidly improved land. He is progressive in his methods, using only the latest improved machinery, and in 1909 he built a valuable and commodious barn, sixty-two by seventy-two feet, two stories high. He has owned this estate since 1901, and since that time has improved it in a splendid manner. He is also prominently identified with stock raising interests, making

a specialty of the breeding of Rambouillet sheep, Poland China hogs and Barred Plymouth Rock chickens.

On the 10th of February, 1897, he was married to Miss Eva J., a daughter of Charles A. and Marilla A. Gunder, of Dola, Hardin county, where Mrs. Powell was born June 11, 1874. Mr. Powell is a member and also the secretary of the order of Patrons of Husbandry, and he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

William Perry Dempster, who is more familiarly known by his second name, is one of the enterprising and successful representatives of the agricultural industry in Hardin county, being the owner of a well improved farm of one hundred and thirty-three acres in Marion township, and being a citizen to whom is accorded unqualified confidence and esteem in the community that has been his home during practically his entire life.

Mr. Dempster was born on the old homestead adjoining his present farm in Marion township on the 24th of February, 1852, and is a son of the late John W. Dempster, who was born in Jefferson county, this state, a scion of one of the sterling pioneer families of Ohio, honored by all with whom he came in contact and known as a prosperous farmer and worthy citizen. He moved to Hardin county in 1847, where he spent the remainder of his life. W. Perry Dempster, the immediate subject of this sketch, was reared to the sturdy discipline of the home farm, to whose work he early began to contribute his quota, the while he was afforded the advantages of the district schools, which he continued to attend during the winter terms until he was about twenty years of age, after which he continued his studies of higher academic order in the Ohio Northern University, at Ada. That he made good use of his educational advantages is assured with much of emphasis when it is stated that for more than twenty years he devoted his attention a portion of each year to the pedagogic profession, having been an able and popular teacher in the public schools of Hardin, Allen and Hancock counties.

Mr. Dempster has owned and resided upon his present farm since 1881, and his management of the same has been most effective, as is shown in the evident thrift and prosperity manifest on every hand. The buildings and other permanent improvements are of excellent order, and the place is devoted to diversified agriculture and to the raising of high-grade live stock, through the medium of which Mr. Dempster has gained definite success, being known as one of the substantial citizens of his native county and being a stockholder and director of the Alger Savings Bank.

Mr. Dempster is a man of broad mental ken and strong individuality, and this fact, coupled with his acknowledged integrity in all the relations of life, has made him a factor of influence in local affairs of a public nature. In politics he accords an unswerving allegiance to the Republican party, and he has served several terms as clerk of Marion township, besides which he has been an earnest and valued member of the school board of his district, serving as its clerk for several terms and

doing all in his power to bring the local schools up to the highest possible standard. He and his wife are zealous members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Maysville, in which he is a trustee, besides being active in the work of its Sunday school.

On the 13th of April, 1877, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Dempster to Miss Sarah Cummings, with whom he became acquainted while both were attending school at Ada. It is worthy of record that many years previously their fathers had been neighbors and stanch friends in Harrison county. Mrs. Dempster was born in Harrison county on the 23d of March, 1850, and is a daughter of the late Philip Cummings, a representative farmer of that county. She was afforded excellent educational advantages, including a course in Granville Seminary and the Ohio Northern University at Ada, Ohio, and had been a successful teacher prior to her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Dempster became the parents of three daughters, of whom two are living. Mary Florenda, who was born June 19, 1882, has been a popular teacher in the public schools for seven years, having completed her education by a course in the Ohio Northern University at Ada. Edna Pauline, who was born on the 4th of September, 1886, died on the 3d of the following month. Lucy Leone, who was born on the 19th of November, 1890, was graduated in the high school at Harrod and is now a student in the conservatory of music at Ada, this county. Russell Herbert, who was born July 3, 1892, is now a student in the Harrod high school.

George F. Krummrey, who owns and operates a seed farm in Marion township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born at Berea, this state, February 6, 1863, of German parentage. His parents, Gottleb and Mary (Voltgast) Krummrey, came from Germany in early life and settled in Ohio, where they were married and passed the rest of their years. He died in 1887; she, October 7, 1909. They had twelve children, among whom were one pair of twins, and of this number those living are as follows: Mary, Anna, Ida, Minnie, Fred, John, and George F.

George F. Krummrey was reared on a farm and received his education in a German school. In the spring of 1896 he came to Hardin county, Ohio, where he has since been engaged in farming, having one hundred acres of land and making a specialty of raising onions and onion seed.

Mr. Krummrey married Miss Rosa Brillinger, a native of Ohio, and they are the parents of three sons: Alfred, born October 23, 1895; Carl, January 15, 1897; and Ernest, November 5, 1901. Politically Mr. Krummrey is a Republican, and at different times has been honored with local office. For eight years he has filled the office of trustee of Marion township. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen, and both he and his wife are identified with the Presbyterian church.

James Goslee, one of the most extensive farmers of Hardin county, owns a large farm in Marion township, and is also a stockholder and director of the Alger Savings Bank. Mr. Goslee has practically re-

tired from active life, but has full charge of the work done on his farm and is an excellent manager. He carries on general farming, and raises considerable stock. He was born in Champaign county, Ohio, January 22, 1843, and is a son of John and Mary A. (Kenton) Goslee. John Goslee was a son of Job Goslee, who came to Ohio from Maryland, settling in Champaign county, where he spent the remainder of his life. John Goslee was reared in Champaign county and lived there until after his marriage. His wife, Mary Kenton was reared on Mad river, Near Urbana, Ohio, and came with her husband to Hardin county in the spring of 1843. They settled on the borders of Scioto Marsh, in Roundhead township, and here Mr. Goslee became a large farmer and stock-raiser. He became very prosperous and spent the remainder of his days on this farm. He was an active worker in the Methodist Episcopal church and a class leader. John Goslee had twelve children by his two marriages. Among those by the first marriage were: James, Job, Elizabeth, Mary A., Melissa and one who died in infancy.

When the Goslee family located in Hardin county James was only a few months old. He was reared in the county, and like most other boys of the locality attended school winters and assisted with the work of the farm during the summer months. He remained at home until he reached his majority. Mr. Goslee enlisted in Company E, One Hundred Eightieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in August, 1864, being then twenty-one years of age, and served under General Schofield. His regiment operated in Tennessee and North Carolina, and Mr. Goslee served until the close of the war, when he was mustered out. He participated in many battles and skirmishes, and among these was the battle of Wises Fork. At the close of the war he returned to Hardin county and later went west, though he again returned to the county and engaged in farming.

In 1870 Mr. Goslee married Asenath J. Slaybaugh, born in Bucyrus, Crawford county, Ohio, December 21, 1845, daughter of Samuel and Catherine Slaybaugh. She came with her parents to Hardin county in 1860, and they settled in Roundhead township. Mr. Goslee and his wife became the parents of one daughter, now deceased. However, they have reared two children, namely: May Scott and Ruth Moore. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Pleasant Hill, where Mr. Goslee is one of the stewards and trustees. Politically he is a Democrat, although he does not care to hold public office. However, he is actively interested in the public welfare and forwards every good cause that comes within his knowledge. He owns four hundred and twenty-five acres of fine farming land in Marion and Roundhead townships, and has been very successful in his undertakings. He has a large circle of friends and is considered one of the representative, useful citizens of the county.

Howard E. Thompson.—It is gratifying to note those instances where native sons of Hardin county have been able here to find ample opportunity and scope for effective activity in connections with practical industrial and business enterprises, and one of this number who is

well entitled to consideration in this publication is Howard E. Thompson, who is one of the successful and progressive farmers and stock-growers of the county and who owns and resides upon the fine old homestead farm in Marion township, which was the place of his nativity. He was born on this farm on the 23d of March, 1861, and is a son of Henry F. and Catherine J. (McGinnis) Thompson, the former of whom was born in the city of Baltimore, Maryland, and the latter in Ross county, Ohio, where her parents settled in the pioneer days. The marriage of Henry F. Thompson and Catherine J. McGinnis was solemnized in Kenton, Hardin county, on the 31st of July, 1851, and they established their home on the farm now owned by their son Howard E., whose name initiates this review. The father reclaimed the farm from the virgin forest and developed the same into one of the valuable properties of this favored section of the state. He became one of the honored and influential citizens of Marion township, taking an active part in the civic and material development and upbuilding of his section of the county and ever holding the implicit confidence and esteem of his fellow men. He was one of the sterling pioneer citizens of Hardin county, whither he came with his parents in the year 1833, and the McGinnis family located in this county in 1844, so that the subject of this review is a scion of pioneer stock in both paternal and maternal lines. Henry F. Thompson was a Republican in his political proclivities and his religious faith was that of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which his widow has long been a devoted member also. He was summoned to the life eternal on the 18th of August, 1903, and his widow still resides on the old homestead, which is endeared to her by the hallowed memories and associations of the past. Of their eleven children only three are living, Howard E. being the youngest of the number; Dr. Frank B. Thompson is a representative physician and surgeon of Lafayette, Indiana; and Emma is the wife of James Conner, of Alger, Hardin county, Ohio. The honored father was seventy-nine years of age at the time of his detath, The mother was born in Ross county, this state, on the 26th of February, 1829, and is thus more than eighty years of age at the time of this writing, in 1910, being well preserved in both physical and mental faculties. Her father was a cabinet maker by trade but was engaged in farming in Ross county at the time of her birth. When she was a girl the family moved to a small pioneer village in Ross county, and there she attended school until the removal of the family to Hardin county, her father having in the meanwhile been engaged in the manufacturing of furniture on a modest scale.

Howard E. Thompson grew to maturity under the beneficent discipline of the home farm and in the meanwhile he continued to attend the district schools until he was about eighteen years of age, thus laying adequate foundation for the excellent practical knowledge and broad general information which he has since gained in the school of experience. His entire active career has been one of consecutive and successful identification with the great basic industries of agriculture and stock-growing, and his efforts in this line have been almost entirely confined to the splendid old homestead farm on which he was born and

of which he is now the fortunate owner, having purchased the place before the death of his honored father. The farm is improved with excellent buildings and its facilities and accessories are of the best modern type, indicating the progressive ideas and productive thrift of the owner. The farm comprises one hundred and sixty-eight acres of most fertile land and is devoted to diversified agriculture and to the raising of excellent grades of live stock.

In politics Mr. Thompson accords an unwavering allegiance to the Republican party, and he has been an active worker in its local ranks. He has served as a member of the board of trustees of Marion township and is known as a liberal and public spirited citizen,—one who is ever ready to lend his influence and co-operation in the promotion of measures and enterprises for the general good of the community. He is affiliated with Ada Lodge, No. 344, Free and Accepted Masons, and with Ada Chapter No. 138, Royal Arch Masons, at Ada, this county, and both he and his wife are affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church at Marysville.

On the 23d of June, 1880, was recorded the marriage of Mr. Thompson to Miss Ida M. Conner, who was born in Allen county, Ohio, on the 15th of February, 1862, and who is a daughter of the late Abraham Conner, a representative farmer of this section of the state. She received excellent educational advantages and is a woman of gracious personality, making the attractive family home a center of generous hospitality. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have two children: Martin, who was born December 2, 1884, and who is associated in the work and management of the home farm, married Miss Effie Campbell and they have two children,—Marvin and Elwood; Mabel, who was born on the 25th of August, 1884, remains at the parental home and is a teacher of music, having received excellent advantages in her musical work and is an accomplished performer on the piano.

Allen Edwards.—The popular mayor of the thriving little city of McGuffey is one of the well known and influential business men of Hardin county, where he is general manager of the extensive interests of the Scioto Land Company, which controls about four thousand acres of land in this county and which has developed the property, reclaiming the fine marsh land to cultivation and devoting the same largely to the cultivation of onions, in which particular field of enterprise it is not surpassed by any concern in the Union. The average annual production of onions alone, to say nothing of the many other vegetables and incidental products secured from the farms of the company, is now fully four hundred thousand bushels, and such is the constituency of the land and such the careful attention given to every detail of propagation that the output is of the most superior quality, finding a ready demand in the leading markets of the country. Mr. Edwards is a stockholder in the company and gives to its affairs the major portion of his time and attention, being known as a discriminating executive and progressive business man. His personal popularity in the community is indicated by his tenure of his present municipal office, and he is ever found arrayed as a

Allen Edwards

supporter of all measures and enterprises tending to advance the civic and material welfare of his home village and county.

Allen Edwards was born in the city of Youngstown, Mahoning county, Ohio, on the 19th of December, 1861, and is a son of Jonathan O. and Johanna (Allen) Edwards, who now live in Pittsburg. To the public schools of his native city Allen Edwards is indebted for his early educational discipline, which also included a course in the Rayen School at Youngstown, in which he was graduated in 1878, at the age of sixteen years. After leaving school he became identified with the work and management of a farm owned by his father in Mahoning county. His father was an extensive and successful breeder of shorthorn cattle and he himself became prominent in connection with this field of enterprise. He gave special attention to the breeding of this type of cattle and exhibited his fine stock at many state fairs and live-stock shows, in the meantime securing a large number of premiums and medals.

In 1889 Mr. Edwards came to Hardin county and took up his residence in McGuffey. He was made manager of the important interests of the Scioto Land Company with whose interests he has since continued to be identified in this capacity, being one of the stockholders in the company, which has reclaimed and placed under most effective cultivation about four hundred acres of its large area of land. The improvements are of the best order and all of this work has been accomplished under the personal supervision and direction of Mr. Edwards, who likewise has charge of all details of operation. On the fine farms of the company employment is given constantly to a force of about sixty men, and at certain seasons of the year fully one hundred and twenty-five persons are employed in the cultivation and handling of the enormous products.

As a citizen Mr. Edwards is essentially loyal and progressive, and he is held in unqualified esteem in the county with whose industrial affairs he is so prominently concerned. In politics he gives allegiance to the Republican party, and he has served as mayor of McGuffey since 1909, besides which he is at the present time incumbent of the office of justice of the peace. He is affiliated with Kenton Lodge, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and also holds membership in the Modern Woodmen of America. Both he and his wife are zealous members of the Presbyterian church in McGuffey, in which he is an elder as well as a member of its board of trustees. As mayor of McGuffey he has given a most effective and satisfactory administration, and his well defined municipal policies have inured greatly to the advantage of the village and its people.

On the 30th of July, 1890, Mr. Edwards was united in marriage to Miss Emma Conner, daughter of John P. Conner, an honored and influential citizen of Ada. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards have one daughter, Catherine, who is now (1910) a student in the musical conservatory of the Ohio Northern University at Ada, this county.

Thomas Reed Dunlap well merits recognition in this history by reason of his status as one of the essentially representative business men

of his native county, where he is held in unequivocal confidence and esteem and where he is known as a loyal, progressive and substantial citizen. He is the owner of the large and well equipped grain elevator at Alger and in the village of McGuffey, this county, he operates an elevator of still greater capacity. He has built up a substantial and extensive business as a buyer and shipper of grain and also makes a specialty of the buying and shipping of onions, for which product this section of the state has gained marked reputation. He is a business man of much initiative power, enterprise and sagacity, and his success stands in most effective evidence of his ability and well directed endeavors along normal lines of enterprise. He is identified with other business interests of important order and may consistently be designated one of the veritable "captains of industry" in his native county.

Mr. Dunlap was born on the homestead farm of his father in Marion township, Hardin county, Ohio, on the 6th of August, 1875, and is a son of James R. and Belle (Roberts) Dunlap, well known and honored citizens of the county. Mr. Dunlap was reared to the sturdy and invigorating discipline of the farm and thus early learned the value and dignity of honest toil and endeavor, the while he availed himself of the advantages of the district schools, which he attended during the winter terms, assisting in the work of the home farm during the summer seasons. Later he continued his studies in a select school at Harrod, Allen county, after which he was one year a student in the Ohio Northern University at Ada. After leaving this institution he then came to Alger where he purchased the grain elevator, which he has enlarged and otherwise improved and which he has since operated with ever increasing success, handling here a large volume of grain each season and also owning and operating the fine elevator at McGuffey, which is the shipping point for an even larger amount of the grain which he purchases each year, his two elevators drawing their supplies from a wide area of the fine farming district in Hardin and adjacent counties. Mr. Dunlap ships all kinds of grain to the leading markets and has also built up an extensive business in the handling of onions, which are raised in large quantities in this county. Fairness and integrity have characterized all of his dealings, so that he has an impregnable hold upon the confidence and esteem of those with whom he has had business association. He is the owner of a well improved farm of eight acres in Marion township; is a stockholder in the Alger Savings Bank; and is one of the principal stockholders of the J. W. Kirts Company, of which he is secretary. This company was incorporated in December, 1909, with a capital stock of thirty thousand dollars, and in the fall of 1910 will institute the operation of a large and finely stocked general merchandise store in Alger. It will thus be seen that as an aggressive, though essentially conservative, business man Mr. Dunlap is contributing largely to the industrial and material advancement and prosperity of his home town and county, and he manifests a lively interest in all measures and enterprises that tend to advance the general welfare.

Though never ambitious for the honors or emoluments of public

office, Mr. Dunlap is a stanch supporter of the cause of the Republican party. He is affiliated with Ada Lodge No. 344, Free and Accepted Masons, and with Chapter No. 138, Royal Arch Masons, at Ada, this county, and is deeply appreciative of the time-honored fraternity with which he is thus identified. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

On the 1st of December, 1903, Mr. Dunlap was united in marriage to Miss Vand Randall, daughter of Professor Don W. Randall, superintendent of the public schools of Wapakoneta, Ohio, in whose high school she was graduated. Mr. and Mrs. Dunlap have one daughter, Mary R., who was born on the 21st of October, 1909.

Robert A. Elliott, M. D.—One of the representative physicians and surgeons of the younger generation in Hardin county and who is admirably fortified for the responsible work of his chosen profession is Dr. Elliott, who is engaged in practice in the village of Alger, where he has a representative clientage and where he is held in high regard as a physician and as a loyal and progressive citizen.

Dr. Elliott reverts with no slight measure of satisfaction to the fact that he is a native son of the fine old Buckeye state, which has represented his home from the time of his birth and with whose annals the family name has been identified for three or more generations. The Doctor was born on the homestead farm of his parents in Union township, Auglaize county, Ohio, on the 7th of December, 1881, and is a son of Levi N. and Mary J. (Stamats) Elliott, both of whom still reside in that county. Dr. Elliott early learned the lessons of practical industry in connection with the work of the home farm, and his preliminary educational training was secured in the district schools, which he continued to attend during the winter terms until he was sixteen years of age, in the meanwhile he assisted in the work of the home farm during the summer months. At the age noted he entered the high school at Wapakoneta, in which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1901. In the following year he was graduated in the department of pharmacy at the Ohio Northern University at Ada, Ohio, and thereafter he was employed for an interval as a pharmacist. Having decided to enter the medical profession and being well fortified in many of the scientific methods and processes pertaining thereto, by reason of his knowledge of chemistry and pharmacy, he finally was matriculated in the Eclectic Medical Institute at Cincinnati, Ohio, in which he was graduated in 1905 and from which he received his well earned degree of Doctor of Medicine. He immediately took up his residence in Alger, where he has built up an excellent practice and established a stanch reputation as a physician and surgeon of distinctive skill and discrimination. He is a member of the Northwestern Ohio Eclectic Medical Association and continues a close and appreciative student of his profession, keeping in touch with the advances made in the sciences of both medicine and surgery. He is medical examiner for the Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company, the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, the Prudential Life Insurance Company of Newark, New Jersey, the

Maccabees National Life Insurance Company, of Vermont, and the Security Life Insurance Company. In a fraternal way he is affiliated with Hamer Lodge No. 167, Free and Accepted Masons at Wapakoneta and with the order of Elks.

In politics Dr. Elliott is found aligned as a stanch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party, and the esteem in which he is held in Alger is well indicated by the fact that he is at the present time giving an admirable administration as its mayor having been elected to this office in November of 1909. This preferment is a definite assurance of personal popularity, and the Doctor is fully appreciative of the honor thus conferred upon him. He is liberal and progressive as a citizen and municipal executive and gives his influence in support of every measure tending to promote the general welfare of the community.

In 1909 was solemnized the marriage of Dr. Elliott to Miss Lauretta Wolgamot, daughter of Leon P. Wolgamot, a well known citizen of Logan county.

Harley N. Willson, an active and energetic farmer of Blanchard township, owns and operates eighty acres of valuable land, which he devotes to general farming. His success has been reached by industry and good management, and he is considered a representative, useful citizen. Mr. Willson was born in Wyandotte county, Ohio, in 1870, and is a son of J. R. Willson, also living in Blanchard township, where he owns a valuable farm of one hundred and sixty acres. J. R. Willson purchased this land in 1872 and moved to it two years later; by hard work and untiring energy he evolved a productive and well tilled farm from the wilderness. He was born in Sycamore township, Wyandotte county, Ohio, July 19, 1838, was reared and educated in his native county and has always devoted his time to agricultural pursuits. In 1864 he enlisted as a member of Company H, One Hundred and Forty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was honorably discharged at the end of the war. He was united in marriage, in 1865, with Lovina Longabaugh, and they became the parents of five children, namely: Charles C., John E., Harley N., J. R., Jr., and Hulda. Mr. Willson has for sixteen years been sorely afflicted, having lost his sight. J. R. Willson is a son of Elisha and Hulda (Shotwell) Willson, both natives of New Jersey, who came to Ohio in 1833. To them were born five children, namely: Elvira, J. R., Z. S., Rosella and Gilbert F.

Harley N. Willson was reared and educated in Hardin county, to which his father had come in 1874, and has established a good reputation in the community where he has so long resided. He chose the vocation of farming, and has followed it all his life. He has served as township supervisor, and is a member of the school board.

In 1895 Mr. Willson married Mary E., daughter of Calvin and Emma Reed, and to them were born four children, namely: Philip S., (deceased), Edwin M., Kermit H. and Dorothea M. Mrs. Willson was born in Blanchard township, Hardin county, in 1876. Both she and her husband are devout members of the Christian church.

William S. Robinson.—On other pages of this work is entered a memorial tribute to General James S. Robinson, a distinguished figure in the military and public annals of the nation, and of this honored citizen of Hardin county, where he maintained his home until the time of his death, the subject of the sketch at hand is a son. As ready reference may be made to the memoir mentioned, it is not requisite that the data be repeated in the present article.

William S. Robinson was a native of Kenton, Hardin county, where he was born on the 14th of January, 1851, and where the major portion of his life was passed. He became one of the representative business men of his native city and as a citizen he well upheld the prestige of the honored name which he bore. He died in Kenton on the 27th of December, 1905, leaving the heritage of a good name and of worthy accomplishments as one of the world's noble army of workers. Mr. Robinson gained his early education in the public schools of Kenton and supplemented this by higher academic study. As a young man he served for several years as teller in the Kenton Savings Bank and later he went to Springfield, Ohio, where he assumed a clerical position in the office of the well known firm of Warder, Bushnell and Mitchell, manufacturers of agricultural machinery, and he continued in the employ of this concern for about two years, at the expiration of which he returned to Kenton, where he became associated with his cousin, Henry Spelman, and engaged in the retail hardware business under the firm name of Robinson & Spelman. This mutually pleasing business alliance continued about twenty years and was severed only by the death of the honored subject of this sketch.

Like his distinguished father, Mr. Robinson was a stanch and uncompromising advocate of the principles and policies of the Republican party, and while he had naught of ambition for public office and never consented to permit the use of his name in connection therewith, he gave a liberal support to the party cause and as a citizen he was essentially loyal, progressive and public spirited. By reason of his father's service as an officer in the Civil war he became eligible for membership in the military order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. He was affiliated with the Masonic fraternity and was deeply appreciative of its teachings and high ideals. In his native city he ever held a secure place in the popular confidence and esteem, and his death was deeply lamented in the community which had so long been his home. He was a communicant of the Protestant Episcopal church, as is also his widow, who still retains her home in Kenton.

On the 27th of October, 1881, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Robinson to Miss Alice Powell, who was born and reared in Cincinnati, Ohio, and who is the daughter of James and Anna (Foley) Powell. Her father was born in the city of Ghent, Belgium, and was about three years of age at the time of the family's removal to America. His parents located in the city of Cincinnati, where he was reared to manhood and received excellent educational advantages. For a short time after his arrival in this country Mr. Powell resided in Illinois, and he then removed to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he established a small brass foundry

at the rear of his home. From this modest inception was built up a flourishing enterprise and he became one of the representative manufacturers of the Queen City. Finally his son James became associated with him in the business and the enterprise is still continued, being one of the largest of its kind in Cincinnati. The parents of Mrs. Robinson continued to make their home in Cincinnati until their death.

To William S. and Alice (Powell) Robinson were born two children, Helen, who has been the principal of the West school in Hardin county for several years and who is one of the successful and popular teachers in connection with the public schools of the city, and James Sidney, the son, is a Senior in the high school class of 1910. Both he and his sister remain with their widowed mother. The family have a secure place in connection with the best social activities of the community.

Elliott G. Harriman, who now maintains his home in the attractive little village of Alger, has been a resident of Hardin county since his childhood days and has long been known as one of the substantial and representative citizens of the county, where he has been identified with agricultural pursuits and other lines of productive business enterprise and where he commands the popular confidence and esteem ever marking objective appreciation of sterling worth of character. He is a representative of one of the honored pioneer families of Ohio and one that was founded in America in the colonial epoch.

Elliott G. Harriman was born in Delaware county, Ohio, on the 5th of February, 1851, and is a son of William and Evaline (Johnson) Harriman, whose marriage was solemnized in Logan county, this state. William Harriman was born in Logan county on the 6th of April, 1829, and was a son of Simpkins Harriman, whose father, David Harriman, was born in 1755, being a son of David Harriman, who was born in 1710 and died in 1778. The latter was a son of John Harriman, who was born in 1680 and whose death occurred in 1740; his father was Rev. John Harriman, who was born in 1647 and died in 1704. This honored ancestor was graduated in Harvard College as a member of the class of 1667, was a man of distinguished attainments and for twenty years served as pastor of a church in New Haven, Connecticut. He devoted thirty-four years to the work of the ministry and in the archives of New England history his name finds honorable mention. He was a son of John Harriman, who was born in Rowley, Yorkshire, England, in 1608, and who was the founder of the family in America, whither he came in 1638, settling in New Haven, Connecticut, and becoming a man of prominence and influence in the colony. His death occurred in 1681.

Simpkins Harriman, grandfather of the subject of this review, was a native of the state of Pennsylvania and came to Ohio about the year 1825, and he became one of the sterling pioneers of Logan county, where he secured a tract of wild land and reclaimed a farm, continuing his residence in that county until his death. There his son William was reared to manhood under the conditions and influences of the pioneer days and there was identified with agricultural pursuits until he moved to Delaware county, which continued to be his home for a few years.

E. H. Harriman.

Mrs. Stella Harriman

About the year 1853 William Harriman came to Hardin county and purchased a farm in Dudley township, where he became a successful agriculturist and stock-grower and a citizen who wielded no little influence in local affairs. He was a man of sturdy integrity, of strong individuality and of indefatigable industry, so that he attained to a due measure of success in connection with his business affairs. He lived and labored to goodly ends and his name merits a place on the roll of those who have contributed to the social and material upbuilding of the county. He continued to reside on his old homestead farm until 1878, when he moved to Kenton, where he died, on March 7, 1895, at which time he was sixty-five years and eleven months old; his devoted wife, who had been a cherished companion and helpmeet, passed to the life eternal in 1900, at the age of seventy years, both having been members of the United Brethren and later of the Disciples church. Of their children Elliott G. was the first born; Sarah J. is the wife of Ray B. Thompson, of Kenton, this county; John E. died at the age of seventeen years; Mary E. is the wife of William Saunders and they reside near Marysville, Union county, Ohio; and Lydia A. is the wife of John McMahon, a prosperous farmer near Kenton, Hardin county.

Elliott Green Harriman, the immediate subject of this sketch, was about three years of age at the time of the family removal from Delaware county to Hardin county, and on the home farm in Dudley township he was reared to years of maturity, early beginning to assist in the work of the farm and in the meanwhile attending the district schools, in which he continued his studies during the winter terms until he was about eighteen years of age. That he made good use of the advantages thus afforded him is evident when we revert to the fact that he became a successful and popular teacher in the district schools of his home county, having initiated his labors in the pedagogic profession when eighteen years of age. In the year 1871 he was a student in the Ohio Northern University at Ada, and after leaving this institution he continued teaching, to which vocation he devoted his attention for a total of about six years, being identified with farming during the summer seasons and acting as schoolmaster during the winter terms.

The active career of Mr. Harriman has been one of close and successful identification with agricultural pursuits until within recent years, and he is still the owner of a farm in Marion township. He took up his residence on his farm in that township on the 10th of January, 1892, and there he continued to live until 1903, when he moved to the village of Alger, where he is now successfully engaged in the real-estate and insurance business. Besides his farm in Marion township, near Alger, he is also the owner of a well improved farm of eighty acres in Allen county, this state. He has been enterprising and progressive as a farmer and business man and has not been denied a generous measure of success in connection with his well directed endeavors. His hold upon popular confidence and esteem is most secure, being based upon sterling elements of character and genial and kindly attitude in his relations with his fellow men. He and his wife are zealous and valued members of the Methodist Episcopal church in their home village, and in a fra-

ternal way he is affiliated with Ada Lodge No. 344, Free and Accepted Masons, at Ada, this county.

In politics Mr. Harriman has ever found the Republican party worthy of his unqualified allegiance and he takes a lively interest in the questions and issues of the hour, besides which he is essentially progressive and public-spirited in connection with civic affairs of a more localized order. While residing on his farm he served two terms as clerk of Dudley township, and for eight years he was a member of the board of trustees of Marion township. In Alger he has served as a member of the village council and as president of the board of education.

On the 6th of March, 1873, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Harriman to Miss Nancy E. Richey, who was born in New Dover, Union county, Ohio, on the 9th of November, 1854, and who is a daughter of Joseph N. and Edna (Farnum) Richey, both of whom were born in Union county, Ohio, the former on the 12th of March, 1822, and the latter in 1837. Joseph Richey was for many years successfully engaged in business as a buyer and shipper of live stock and he passed the closing years of his life in Union county, where he died on the 11th of May, 1882. His wife survived him until the 1st of February, 1907, when she too was summoned to the "land of the leal." William Richey, grandfather of Mrs. Harriman, was a native of Scotland. Mr. and Mrs. Harriman became the parents of four children, concerning whom the following brief record is entered: Calvin A., who was born February 9, 1874, is now a successful and popular teacher in the public schools of Allen county, this state; William G., who was born on the 27th of November, 1875, died on the 1st of the following May; Charles E., who was born November 27, 1879, is a telegraph operator, employed by the Erie Railroad Company at Boone Grove, Indiana; and John E., who was born October 27, 1896, is a student in the graded schools of Alger.

Dr. J. S. Hedrick is one of the leading physicians of Dunkirk, Ohio, where he has been in practice since 1888. He was born in York county, Pennsylvania, in 1859, and received his primary education in the place of his nativity. He is a son of Isaac and Sallie (Mundis) Hedrick, both also born in York county and both now deceased. There were four children in their family, and all are yet living, but Dr. Hedrick is the only one of the number who has entered professional life and the only one residing in Hardin county.

He attended Stewartstown Academy and the Millersville State Normal School, and then began preparing for the profession which he had chosen as his life's work. The first year was spent in the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Baltimore, was then two years a student in the Starling Medical College at Columbus and graduated with its class of 1882, and then after six years of active practice he entered the Bellevue Hospital Medical College and graduated therefrom in 1888. This was followed by a post graduate course at the New York Post Graduate School, and in 1908 took a special course at the Johns Hopkins University. With this splendid training he came to Hardin county, and after a few years spent at Dola he located in Dunkirk and has since

been one of its most successful physicians. He has accordingly built up a large and lucrative practice, and has won the confidence and esteem of the community. Dr. Hedrick is a member of the Hardin County Medical Society, of which he is a past president, and a member of the Northwestern Ohio Medical Society, the State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. Socially he is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He stands high in his profession, and takes a commendable interest in public affairs.

In 1884 Dr. Hedrick married Catherine Edwards, by whom he had two children, David I. and Laura M. The son graduated in 1909 from the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, standing at the head of his class, and he was immediately appointed to a position on board the U. S. battleship New Hampshire. Dr. Hedrick married for his second wife in 1899 Netta Williamson, of Hardin county, and they have a son, John S. Hedrick.

John A. Ropp, a prosperous farmer of Jackson township, was born in this township on July 29, 1860. He is a son of Simon and Lydia J. (Stevens) Ropp, natives of Logan and Knox counties, Ohio, respectively. Simon Ropp's father entered eighty acres of wild government land previous to 1835, and this afterward became the property of Simon and now belongs to his son John A. Simon Ropp and his wife had the following children: Flora, May D., John A., Hattie (deceased), Dale (deceased), and two who died in infancy. Flora and May D. are residents of Hancock county, Ohio. Simon Ropp was born August 15, 1829, and died February 28, 1907; his widow still resides on the home farm. Mrs. Lydia Ropp is a daughter of Jonathan Stevens, whose children were: Lydia J., Sarah, Lucinda, Mary, Nettie, Langford and Bryant.

John A. Ropp received his education in the common schools of his native township, and subsequently attended night school in Columbus, Ohio. He spent his early life on a farm, and when fifteen years of age entered the Athletic School of Columbus, from which he graduated in 1878. He then contracted with Sells Brothers as an acrobat, and his wonderful bareback riding and other feats delighted thousands of spectators in attendance at the "World's Greatest Show." In this capacity he traveled over the United States, Australia and New Zealand. One of the great attractions of the show was "Ropp," the fearless, daring, intrepid bareback rider and leaper—at that time the world's famous leaper. Besides giving him an income, this afforded him the opportunity of obtaining an education which can only be secured by travel, and he profited well by it. After seven years' successfully spent with this company Mr. Ropp returned to his native state and spent some years in Columbus, Ohio. In 1897 he returned to Jackson township, Hardin county, and has since been engaged in farming. His well improved farm of ninety acres he devotes to general farming, and has met with success in this enterprise.

In 1900 Mr. Ropp married Laura M., daughter of A. M. and May A. Bowers. Mr. Bowers was born at Green Springs, Seneca county, Ohio,

and married Mary A. Pisel, a native of Hardin county, Ohio; their children were: Reuben, Libbie, William N., Laura M., James M. and Annie L. Mr. Ropp and his wife became parents of three children, Elmer H., Frank S. and Ellena. Mrs. Ropp is a native of Jackson township, and was born February 29, 1880.

Nathaniel Williamson, late of Pleasant township, Hardin county, was a man of sterling character, straightforward and honest in his dealings, and ever ready to respond to any reasonable demand upon his time, energies or sympathies. Although the later years of his life were passed in agricultural pursuits, he taught school many years in his younger days, and was ever a friend of education. He was born, in 1828, in Richland county, Ohio, and died on the Williamson homestead in Pleasant township in 1885, aged fifty-seven years.

His father, William Williamson, a son of Bartholomew Williamson, emigrated from Virginia, his native state, to Ohio, becoming a pioneer settler of Richland county. A few years later he took up his residence in Ashland county, from there coming, in 1834, to Hardin county, making the journey through the well nigh pathless woods with teams, bringing his family and household goods with him. On March 13, after eight days' travel, he arrived in Pleasant township. Buying one hundred and sixty acres of timbered land, he cut trees to make room for a small cabin of hewed logs, which was the family's first home in this region. He began the improvement of a homestead, but ere he had accomplished very much of the necessary task his earthly career was cut short, his death occuring in 1836. His wife, whose maiden name was Catherine Bryte, survived him, attaining the age of seventy-one years. She married a second time, John Gumm, a farmer in Washington township, becoming her husband. By her first marriage she had four children, namely: Nathaniel, Bartholomew, Rachel A., and Hannah J. John Gumm, Jr., the only child of her second union, was a soldier in the Civil war, and lost his life while in service.

A lad of eight years when his father died, Nathaniel Williamson continued to live with his mother and step-father, acquiring a practical education in the public schools, which was supplemented by home study and reading. While yet in his teens he began teaching during the winter seasons. On attaining his majority he, with his brother and sisters, returned to the paternal homestead in Pleasant township, and resumed the work of clearing the land which had been commenced by his father so many years before. He continued his professional labors, too, teaching the winter terms of school for twenty years, being employed one winter at Dunkirk, the remaining terms teaching nearer home. Eventually Mr. Williamson purchased the interests of his brother and sisters in the old homestead, and was there successfully engaged in general farming until his death.

Mr. Williamson married, April 12, 1855, Serena Davis, who was born in March, 1835, in Marion county, Ohio, a daughter of Walter Davis. It was a member of that branch of the Davis family to which she belonged that gave Ohio its nickname. He was pitted against

another man in a wood chopping contest, each man to select a tree. He chose a buckeye, won the match, and the state has since been called, in his honor, the "Buckeye" state. Walter Davis removed from Marietta, Ohio, to Marion county, and purchased land lying on the Hardin county line, and there engaged in tilling the soil, at the same time operating a sawmill, which was run by water power, continuing his labors until his death. He married Caroline Otis, who was born in Connecticut, a daughter of Stephen and Mary (Claudy) Otis. Her grandfather, Barnabas Otis, served in the Revolutionary war, enlisting in Litchfield, Connecticut. He and his wife, Mehitable Turner, subsequently settled in Marion county, Ohio, and at his death was buried in Paw Paw cemetery. Mrs. Williamson received an excellent education, and prior to her marriage was engaged in teaching.

Eleven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Williamson, namely: Ida, Florence R., Walter D., Mamie E., Carrie, Belle O., Lillie M., Nettie V., William, Sheridan and Edna A. Five of these children became teachers in the public schools, and one became a music teacher. When young, Mr. and Mrs. Williamson united with the Church of Christ and brought up their children in the same religious faith.

James S. Wetherill.—A man of push, enterprise and ability, James S. Wetherill, of Kenton, is actively identified with one of the important industries of this part of the county, being manager of the Crystal Ice and Cold Storage Company, which is carrying on a substantial business in this vicinity, facilitating the business growth and prosperity of the city in ways unthought of when it was first established. He is a native of Hardin county, his birth having occurred, September 14, 1869, in the town of Alger. His father, James G. Wetherill, was likewise born in this county, having drawn the first breath of life, in 1843, in Marion township. John R. Wetherill, grandfather of James S., was born in Lincolnshire, England, and came with his parents to America. After living for awhile in Richland county he located in Hardin county, becoming a pioneer of Marion township. Buying a tract of timbered land, he labored with unceasing toil and in course of time reclaimed a farm from the forest, and was there an honored and respected resident until his death, at the advanced age of four score and ten years.

James G. Wetherill attended the pioneer schools of his day, and in tender years began to assist his father in the work of the farm. At the breaking out of the Civil war his patriotic spirit was aroused, and early in 1861, being then eighteen years old, he enlisted in Company C, Fortieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and immediately going to the front, was with his regiment in all of its marches, campaigns and engagements until after the battle of Chickamauga, being left in the field. Just before that memorable battle James A. Garfield, colonel of his regiment, called upon him to hold his horse while he made observations with a field glass. During the battle that followed Mr. Wetherill was severely wounded in the right hand, was taken prisoner, and kept thirteen days without proper surgical care. Being then exchanged he was sent to the

Camp Chase Hospital, where he was treated for several months, after which he was honorably discharged and returned home. He subsequently became a buyer and shipper of live stock, and conducted an extensive business, becoming widely and favorably known. He died when but forty-four years old, being accidentally killed while moving a building, gratuitously, for a widow in his neighborhood. He married Emily Donaldson, who was born in Pennsylvania, a daughter of Andrew and Elizabeth Donaldson. She died in September, 1909, leaving two sons, Emer E., a farmer of Clyde, Ohio, and James S., the subject of this sketch.

Receiving his elementary education in the schools of Cessna township, James S. Wetherill afterward entered the Fostoria Academy, where he spent one year, and he then spent two years at the Ohio Northern University at Ada. He engaged in teaching, first in a district school northeast of Kenton, afterward teaching drawing in the Kenton schools for four years. Embarking then in the mercantile pursuits, he was actively engaged in the grocery business three years, He then served two years as deputy county surveyor, giving it up in 1907 to accept his present position as manager of The Crystal Ice and Cold Storage Company, a prominent and growing industry.

Mr. Wetherill is married, his wife being Miss Roberta Gage, of Forest, Ohio. To this union were born four children, namely: Grace, True, Fern and Gage. In his political affiliations Mr. Wetherill is a steadfast Republican, and is now a member and clerk of the Kenton school board. Fraternally he is a member of the Amicitia Lodge No. 79, I. O. O. F., and belongs to the Epworth Methodist Episcopal church.

Lloyd H. Clark.—This well known citizen and representative business man of Hardin county is a scion of one of the old and honored families of this section of the state and the major part of his life has been passed in Hardin county, where he has gained distinctive success through his own well directed endeavors, being now the president of the Alger Clay Manufacturing Company, the leading industrial and business concern of the thriving little city of Alger, of which he may well be considered one of the founders, as he was the second to erect a residence in the village, which is eligibly located on the line of the Erie Railroad. His status in the community well entitles him to consideration in this history of Hardin county.

Lloyd H. Clark is a native of the old Buckeye state, having been born on a farm in Seneca county, Ohio, on the 30th of August, 1845, and being a son of Thomas and Mary (Juda) Clark. The father was engaged in farming in Seneca county until about 1853, when he moved with his family to Hardin county, where he purchased a farm in Marion township. He developed the property, and there continued to be engaged in agricultural pursuits during the residue of his active career. He passed the closing years of his life in the village of Ada, this county.

The rudimentary education of Mr. Clark was secured in the common schools of his native county and he was a lad of eight years at the time of the family removal to Hardin county, where he continued to attend

Lloyd H. Clark

school at irregular intervals, in the meanwhile finding demand for his services in connection with the work of the home farm. He was but sixteen years of age at the time of the outbreak of the Civil war, but his youthful patriotism soon found definite exemplification. On the 4th of July, 1863, before he had attained to the age of eighteen years, he enlisted as a private in Company G, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which command he served until the expiration of his term of ninety days, when he reenlisted as a veteran, becoming a member of Company A, One Hundred and Eightieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he continued in active service until the close of the war. He took part in a number of the important battles marking the progress of the great fratricidal conflict, besides participating in innumerable skirmishes. He was mustered out in 1865, and duly received his honorable discharge after his return to his native state.

After the close of the great conflict through which the integrity of the nation was perpetuated Mr. Clark returned to Hardin county and rented his father's farm, to whose operation he gave his attention until moving to Michigan, where he secured a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres of land. He reclaimed much of the land to cultivation and made other improvements on the property, which he retained in his possession for a period of eight years, at the expiration of which he sold the same and returned to Hardin county, Ohio, where he again rented his father's farm. On this old homestead he continued to be actively engaged in farming and stock-growing for the ensuing eight years. He then became one of the first to establish a home in the present village of Alger, where, as already stated, he erected the second house to be built in the new town. He took up his residence here in the year 1883, and for a short time he was employed by the Erie Railroad Company, after which he conducted a hotel for a time. In 1884 Mr. Clark became associated with two other citizens in the manufacturing of tile at Alger, beginning operation with a capital of only fifteen hundred dollars. Some time later he purchased the interests of his partners, and eventually he admitted to partnership his sons C. C. and H. G. Clark. Under these auspices the enterprise increased rapidly in scope and importance, and today it represents the principal industrial concern of Alger, the business being conducted according to progressive policies and being based on ample capitalistic support and able executive management. In 1899 Mr. Clark left this business in charge of the two sons mentioned and with his other sons went to Virginia, where he established an enterprise of the same order. He remained in the Old Dominion state until he returned to Alger and resumed his active association with the business which he had previously founded, as already noted. In 1902 a reorganization was made and the business was incorporated under the laws of the state. At this time the present title, the Alger Clay Manufacturing Company, was adopted, and its officers are as here noted: Lloyd H. Clark, president; C. C. Clark, treasurer; and H. G. Clark, secretary. In 1902 the company also purchased the lumber yard and business of Howard Smith, and this enterprise is now a department of its large and substantial business. The company manufacture drain tile from three to twenty

inches in diameter, and also hollow blocks and common brick. They are dealers in coal, cement, fire brick, lake sand, Fishack plaster, builders' hardware, handle all kinds of lumber and interior finishings, mill work of all descriptions, and roofing of slate, galvanized iron, asbestos and rubber. The concern controls a large and widely extended trade and the volume of its business shows a material increase each successive year, making it one of the important contributions to the industrial prestige of Hardin county. The president of the company is also a stockholder in the Alger Savings Bank.

Mr. Clark is a staunch Republican in his political proclivities but has had no desire for public office of any description. He is an enterprising, reliable and straightforward business man and a loyal citizen, thus having worthy claim to the unqualified esteem in which he is held in the community.

The two sons of Mr. and Mrs. Clark are C. C. Clark, the treasurer of the Alger Clay Manufacturing Company and also the manager of the business, and his younger brother, H. G., the secretary of the company. Emma, the only surviving daughter of the subject of this review, is now the wife of Frederick Montville.

C. C. Clark, treasurer and manager of the Alger Clay Manufacturing Company, is recognized as one of the representative business men of Hardin county and he is a factor of distinctive influence in connection with public affairs of a local order, being at the present time the able and popular treasurer of Marion township, to which he was chosen as his own successor in his second election, so that he is now serving his second term. He was born on his father's farm in Michigan on the 15th of February, 1871, but was reared to manhood in Hardin county, where he was afforded the advantages of the public schools. He has shown marked initiative and administrative ability both as a business man and public official, and no further evidence of his personal popularity in the community is demanded than that implied in his having been chosen to his present township office. He is a staunch advocate of the principles and policies for which the Republican party stands sponsor, and he has given effective service in the promotion of its cause in a local way, being at the present time representative of Marion township in the Hardin county Republican central committee. He takes a loyal and insistent interest in all that pertains to the well being of his home village, township and county, and in addition to the official incumbency already mentioned he is also treasurer of the Alger union school district. He and his wife are valued and zealous members of the Alger Methodist Episcopal church and he is a member of its board of trustees. In a fraternal way he is affiliated with Golden Shield Lodge, No. 757, Knights of Pythias.

C. C. Clark was united in marriage to Miss Nettie Austin, a daughter of Martin Austin. Mr. and Mrs. Clark have one daughter, Ruth, who was born on the 12th of July, 1893, and who is a member of the class of 1911 in the Alger high school, being one of the popular young ladies in connection with the social activities of the community.

ELMER J. CAREY.—Endowed by nature with the talents and gifts that win success in the business world and command the respect of his fellow associates, Elmer J. Carey, of Ada, has always identified himself with the leading interests of this part of Hardin county, and has proved himself a valuable and worthy citizen. He is a man of financial ability, and is now serving as cashier of Liberty Bank and as county auditor. He was born, June 3, 1870, in Liberty township, a son of Samuel Carey. A native of Perry county, Ohio, Samuel Carey was there brought up and educated. Coming to Hardin county in 1857, he began farming in Liberty township, subsequently removing to Washington township, Hardin county. He married Rachel Heim, a native of Perry county, Ohio, and of the children born of their union three sons and two daughters are now living, Elmer J., the special subject of this sketch, being the fourth child.

Attending as a boy the district schools of Liberty and Washington townships, Elmer J. Carey completed his early education at the Ohio Northern University in Ada. When in 1902 the Liberty Bank was organized, Mr. Carey was made assistant cashier, and in that capacity proved himself so capable and trustworthy that four years later, in 1906, he was elected cashier of the institution, a position that he has since retained. Active in public affairs, he stands high in the Democratic party, and has served in various official capacities, having been city clerk of Ada, and in 1908 was elected to his present position as county auditor. He is a stockholder in the Liberty Bank and one of its directors, and is also the secretary and treasurer of the Ohio Northern University.

Mr. Carey married, June 18, 1902, Dora Pfeiffer, daughter of George and Mary Pfeiffer, of Kenton, Ohio, and they have one son, Donald V. Carey. Fraternally Mr. Carey is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; of the Knights of Pythias; and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

J. P. NAUS, a retired farmer living in Forest, was born in Richland county, Ohio, October 6, 1841, and is a son of Jacob and Nancy (Pickering) Naus, both natives of Bedford county, Pennsylvania. Jacob Naus and his wife came to Hardin county, Ohio, in 1847, among the first settlers, and they became prominent citizens. Nancy Pickering's uncle served as secretary of war in 1791 and as lieutenant general in 1795. Jacob Naus followed his trade of shoemaker most of his life; in 1834 he moved to Richland county and lived there until 1841. In 1843 he bought forty acres of land, but continued to work at his trade, and in 1847 located in Hardin county, where he spent the remainder of his life. He had six children, namely: Joshua, D. A., Amanda (Mrs. Gilpin), William (deceased) and Washington. William served in the Civil war for one year as private in a company of the Ninety-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, it being part of the Army of the Potomac.

J. P. Naus was reared and educated in Hardin county, and has spent most of his life in agricultural pursuits. Soon after the breaking out of the Civil war he volunteered, August 21, 1862, as a private in

Company H, One Hundred and Eighteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Colonel Samuel Mott commanding. This regiment was assigned to the Second Brigade, Second Division, Twenty-third Corps, Army of the Ohio. Mr. Naus participated with his regiment in many important engagements, among them: Paris (Kentucky), Kingston, Mossey Creek, Rocky Face Ridge, Resaca, Dallas, Kenesaw Mountain, siege of Atlanta, Waynesboro, Columbia, Spring Hill, Franklin, Nashville, Fort Anderson, Town Creek, Wilmington, Kingston (North Carolina), Goldsboro (North Carolina), besides many minor engagements. On May 14, 1864, Mr. Naus was wounded in the left thigh at the battle of Resaca, Georgia, and was prostrated by a shot at the battle of Nashville, Tennessee. He was detached on various duties at different times, and had many hazardous and narrow escapes. He was recognized as a brave man, who would not shirk in his duty, no matter where it might lead him. On June 6, 1865, he was honorably discharged on account of disability.

At the close of the war Mr. Naus returned and took up farming again, and became a successful farmer. He is a public-spirited citizen and stands well with his neighbors and fellows. He belongs to Stanley Post, No. 283, Grand Army of the Republic, and both he and his wife are earnest members of the Baptist church at Forest.

Mr. Naus married, February 15, 1866, Mary A. Ketch, who was born in Jackson township, Hardin county, in 1841; she is a daughter of Thomas and Mary Ketch, residents of Columbia county, Ohio. They both came to Ohio from Pennsylvania in 1835, in their youth, and they were married in 1841; their children were: George, John, Joel, Sarah, Ames and Mary, all of whom survive. Mr. Naus and his wife became the parents of children as follows: Alva T., William, Sarah A. (deceased), Mary E., Cora M., Flora E., Martha B., Arnetta Z. (deceased), Lillian D. and John A. (deceased).

Lewis C. Ankerman.—This well known citizen and sterling business man of the village of Alger, of whose first common council he was a member, is to be designated as one of the world's gallant army of productive workers, and he has achieved a worthy success through his own well directed efforts. He owns and conducts a well equipped blacksmith and general repair shop in Alger and has other local interests of important order.

Mr. Ankerman is a native of the old Buckeye state, having been born on the parental farmstead in Miami county, Ohio, on the 2d of December, 1868, and being a son of Christ and Mary (Stein) Ankerman, both of whom were born in Germany, whence they came to America when young, their marriage having been solemnized in Miami county, Ohio, where they still maintain their home and where the father has long been known as a successful farmer and sterling citizen. Of their eight children, four sons and three daughters are now living.

The initial experiences of Lewis C. Ankerman in connection with the practical duties and responsibilities of life were those gained through his early association with the work of the home farm, where he was reared to the age of sixteen years, in the meanwhile having duly availed

himself of the advantages of the district school near the old homestead. At the age noted he went to Wapakoneta, Ohio, where he served an apprenticeship to the blacksmith trade, in a shop conducted by his elder brother, William, with whom he thus remained for a period of four years, within which he became a skilled workman in both iron and wood. At the expiration of the period noted Mr. Ankerman went to the city of Toledo, where he was employed at his trade for somewhat more than one year. Returning to Wapakoneta, he was there employed about six months, and on the 1st of June, 1891, he established his residence in the newly founded village of Alger, Hardin county, where he rented a blacksmith shop and engaged independently in the work of his trade. Three months later he purchased the building and its equipment, and there he has continued business up to the present time. He enlarged and otherwise improved his shop, and which is now equipped for the handling of all kinds of blacksmith and general repair work in both wood and iron, a specialty being made of the repairing of wagons, carriages and other vehicles, as well as farming machinery and implements. Mr. Ankerman owns five lots in the village,—three of these being the land on which his shop is located and the other two being his residence property. He is a stockholder in the Alger Savings Bank and also in the J. W. Kirts Company, organized with a capital stock of thirty thousand dollars, for dealing in general merchandise.

In politics Mr. Ankerman is aligned as a stanch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party, and after the incorporation of Alger he was elected a member of its first village council, holding this office for four years. He is a member of Ada Lodge, No. 344, Free and Accepted Masons, at Ada, this county, and in his home village he is affiliated with Golden Shield Lodge, Knights of Pythias, and with Tent No. 479, Knights of the Maccabees.

On the 2d of September, 1891, Mr. Ankerman was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Huffman, who was born at Coldwater, Mercer county Ohio, and they have four children. Their names and respective dates of birth are here indicated: Frederick, July 2, 1892; Margaret, July 25, 1895; Raymond, November 1, 1896; and Mildred, April 7, 1899. Frederick is now (1910) attending a business college at Lima, Ohio.

Alexander G. Tidd.—This representative farmer and honored pioneer citizen of Hardin county, which has been his home from the time of his nativity to the present, is a scion of a family that was founded in the county more than eighty years ago. He has gained success and independence through hard work in earlier years and later through effective management of the forces at his command. He is one of the substantial landowners of the county and is a citizen to whom is accorded the most unreserved confidence and esteem in the community. It was his to represent his county as a valiant soldier of the Union in the Civil war, and in the "piping times of peace" he has shown the same loyalty that led him to go forth to defend the integrity of the nation when it was menaced by armed rebellion. His landed estate, comprising four hundred and twenty acres of productive land, is situated in Marion and Roundhead townships, in the former of which his residence is located.

Alexander G. Tidd was born on a pioneer farm in section twenty-one, Roundhead township, this county, on the 24th of April, 1838, and is a son of Hugh H. and Mary (Givins) Tidd, both likewise natives of Ohio. Hugh H. Tidd was born in Logan county, this state, and was a son of Samuel Tidd, who came to Ohio from Pennsylvania and who took up his residence in Roundhead township, Hardin county, in 1820, having moved hither from Logan county. He settled on the northeast quarter of section twenty-one, Roundhead township, and with the assistance of his sons he reclaimed much of the land from the forest before he was summoned from the scene of life's mortal endeavors. His son Hugh H., father of the subject of this review, became owner of the old homestead, which continued to be his place of abode until his death, when he was about sixty-four years of age. He was twice married, and of his sixteen children, nine of whom were born of the first and seven of the second marriage, seven are now living.

Alexander G. Tidd was reared amid the scenes and conditions of the pioneer days in Hardin county,—a period necessarily marked by many hardships and privations as well as by the most arduous toil on the part of the settlers who were bending their efforts to reclaiming the heavily timbered land. He assisted in the work of the home farm until he was twenty-two years of age, and his early educational advantages were very meager, being confined to a desultory attendance in the primitive district or subscriptions schools. In 1860 he was married, and he and his bride began life on a rented farm, without financial resources of any kind and dependent entirely upon their own exertions. They were, however, well equipped with courage, ambition and mutual love and sympathy, and with the passing of the years they were not denied a generous measure of prosperity and happiness. Mr. Tidd finally bought a small tract of land in Roundhead township, and both he and his wife labored without ceasing to bring the same to compensating productiveness. As he prospered in his efforts he added to his landed possessions from time to time, and, as already noted, he is now the owner of one of the valuable farm properties of his native county.

In September, 1864, Mr. Tidd tendered his services in defense of the Union. He enlisted in Company H, one Hundred and Eighty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Twenty-Third Corps of the Army of the Potomac, and with which he participated in the various engagements in which the command was involved, including the battles of Franklin and Nashville. He continued with his regiment until the close of the war, being mustered out on the 17th of July, 1865, and duly receiving his honorable discharge. Mr. Tidd retains a deep interest in his old comrades in arms and signifies the same by his membership in the Hatfield Post, No. 420, Grand Army of the Republic, at Roundhead, of which veteran organization he was formerly chaplain.

In politics Mr. Tidd is arrayed as a stanch supporter of the cause of the Republican party, and while a resident of McDonald township he served as a member of its board of trustees for two terms. He was a trustee of Roundhead township for one term and for six years was a member of the board of directors of the county infirmary. In addi-

tion to his farm property he is also the owner of improved real estate in the village of Anger, and he is also a stockholder in the Alger Savings Bank. In that village he and his wife are zealous and valued members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

On the 20th of September, 1860, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Tidd to Miss Margaret McElhany, who was born in Marion township, this county, on the 14th of April, 1838, and who was reared on the farm of her father, Isaac McElhany, a worthy pioneer of this county. To Mr. and Mrs. Tidd have been born four children, concerning whom the following brief record is given in conclusion of this sketch: Arilla E. died at the age of thirteen years; Frank, who died at the age of thirty years, in 1905, married Miss Leota Poe, who survives him and resides in Marion township, and has one son, Wilbur; Albert, who was born August 16, 1876, and who married Miss Mary Irwin, is a representative farmer of Marion township and they have two children, Mary E. and Blanche E.; and Hallister S., who was born October 17, 1881, is similarly engaged in Roundhead township. He married Myrtle Davis, and their two children are Helen R. and Margaret I. Mrs. Tidd died suddenly March 28, 1910.

James M. Hively.—Among the successful farmers of Cessna township, Hardin county, Ohio, none is more prominent than James M. Hively, a native of the township, born November 22, 1863, a son of David and Rebecca (Mathews) Hively. David Hively was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, and there grew to manhood. He located in Hardin county before his marriage, moved several times, and finally bought the Mathews farm, which had been entered by the Mathews family about 1835, and here Mr. Hively and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. He and his wife were devout and earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and had the highest respect of all who knew them. They had nine children, four sons and five daughters, all now deceased but two, Mrs. H. J. Huggett, of Huntersville, Ohio, and James.

James M. Hively was born on the farm where he now lives and was educated in the district school, attending school winters and helping with the work of the farm through the summers. When about twenty years of age he entered Ada College and spent two terms there. He then turned his undivided attention to agricultural pursuits, in which he has taken great pleasure and reaped a good profit. He has made a careful study of scientific farming and has become very proficient in this line. He deals extensively in stock, buying cattle to feed and ship. For the past ten years Mr. Hively has grown alfalfa quite extensively, and in this line he has also met with gratifying success. He carries on his work in an able manner, making a careful study of rotation of crops and all other subjects which affect the fertility and productiveness of his land. He is a great admirer of fine stock and is a good judge of the same.

Mr. Hively is one of the progressive and enterprising farmers of Cessna township, where he owns three hundred and seventy acres of

land in a fine state of cultivation. He and his wife are members of Pleasant Hill Grange, and belong to the Methodist Episcopal church of Huntersville, of which he is a steward. Politically he is one of the stalwart Republicans of Hardin county, and takes an active interest in public affairs. He and his wife are well known in the community, where they are well liked and exceedingly popular with all.

In 1892 Mr. Hively married Hattie A. Cessna, daughter of J. D. and Eliza A. Cessna, and who was born in the township, where she was reared and educated, attending the district school. She has spent her entire life on the farm, and takes an intelligent interest in everything that goes on in her home. She is one of the highest type of farmer's wives, always ready to give her assistance where possible. They are the parents of three children: John D., Carrie A., and Wilber J.

Eurotis S. Neeley.—The career of this honored citizen of Hardin county stands in patent exemplification of what may be accomplished by one who is endowed with such determination, ambition and energy that he can hurl back impotent the "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune" and through his own efforts rise superior to circumstances and bend fate to his will. Judge Neeley initiated his independent career when a mere boy; his educational advantages has been most meager; he had no fortuitous aid of any kind,—and yet in the face of this he gained a liberal education, became a successful educator, and finally was called upon to serve in the important office of judge of the probate court of Hardin county. The tangible evidence of the material success which he has gained is that given by his ownership of one of the fine farms of Marion township, this county, where he is now living the generous and independent life of the husbandman and finds that his "lines are cast in pleasant places." In offering record concerning such worthy and honored citizens this publication exercises one of its most important functions.

Eurotis S. Neeley was born on a farm in Berlin township, Knox county, Ohio, on the 7th of July, 1862, and is a scion of one of the sterling pioneer families of the old Buckeye state. His father, the late William Neeley, was born in Holmes county, this state, from whence he eventually moved to Knox county, where was solemnized his marriage to Miss Rebecca J. Durbin, daughter of John Durbin, who was a native of Pennsylvania, of German lineage, and who early settled in Knox county, Ohio, where the mother of Judge Neeley was born and reared. In 1862 William Neeley moved with his family to Hardin county and located in Marion township, where he became the owner of a farm, to whose cultivation he gave his attention during the residue of his active career. Both he and his wife died in this county, the former having passed away in 1879 and the latter in 1901.

Judge Neeley was but four weeks old at the time of the family removal to Hardin county, and he passed his boyhood days on the home farm, beginning to give the major part of his time to its work while still a mere boy and being enabled to attend the district school only until he was eleven years of age,—and that during the winter terms only. There-

Eurotis S. Seeley.

after he gave all of his time to the work of the farm until he was sixteen years of age, when his mother died and he set forth to face the battle of life on his own responsibility. He went to Wells county, Indiana, and here he earned his first dollar by strenuous work of cutting timber. He thereafter continued to devote his summers to farm work and his winters to attending school until he had made sufficient advancement in his studies to become eligible for pedagogic honors. He remained in Wells county, Indiana, about two years and thereafter worked and attended school at various places in Ohio until 1883, when he secured his first position as a teacher, in a district school in Allen county. In the meanwhile he so carefully conserved his resources that he was finally able to complete a course in the Ohio Northern University at Ada, Hardin county, in which institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1898, and from which he received his well earned degree of Bachelor of Science. He was engaged in educational work, with unvarying success, for a total of fifty-seven terms, and his career as a teacher thus covered a period of about twenty years, during the last eight of which he was principal of the Central school of Kenton, the county-seat of Hardin county. When thirty-two years of age he received a life certificate as a teacher in Ohio.

In 1902, while still a teacher in the Kenton schools, Judge Neeley was elected to the office of judge of the probate court of Hardin county, being the candidate on the Republican ticket and receiving a majority of ninety-eight votes. Three years later, at the expiration of his first term, he was re-elected, and the manifestation of popular approval of his administration was made most significant at this time, as he was re-elected by the gratifying majority of eight hundred and two votes. He served as judge of probate for six years, retiring from office on the 9th of February, 1909, and in April, 1909, he removed to his farm in Marion township, where he has since continued to devote his attention to the great basic industries of agriculture and stock-growing and where he is carrying forward his operations with marked enterprise and discrimination, availing himself of the practical experience of earlier years as well as of his admirable intellectual powers, which here come into effective play, even as they would in other lines of business enterprise. The homestead farm, improved with substantial buildings and equipped with modern machinery and implements, comprises one hundred and seventy-one acres of land, and the Judge gives his personal supervision to all details of operation. Incidentally it may also be stated that the attractive home is a center of gracious and refined hospitality, and that it is a favored rendezvous for the wide circle of friends that Judge Neeley and his family claim as their own.

In politics Judge Neeley is admirably fortified in his convictions and gives an unyielding adherence to the Republican party, in whose cause he has given effective service. He was one of the stanuch supporters of the local option movement which reached so favorable culmination in Hardin county, and was chairman of the local option leagues of the county. He is an appreciative member of the time-honored Masonic fraternity, in which his affiliations are with Latham Lodge, No.

154, Free and Accepted Masons; with the Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; with the Council, Royal and Select Masters and with Commandery, Knights Templars,—all of which organizations are established in Kenton, this county. He is also identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America, and both he and his wife are zealous members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

On the 21st of June, 1891, Judge Neeley was united in marriage to Miss Byrd Turner, who was born and reared in Hardin county and who is a daughter of the late Lee Turner, a representative and honored citizen of this section of the state. Judge and Mrs. Neeley became the parents of seven children, of whom five are living, their names, with respective dates of birth, being here noted, Lois, August 11, 1894; Helen, January 17, 1900; Samuel W., June 4, 1901; Eurotis P., August 9, 1903; and James L., June 18, 1905. Richard K. was born June 21, 1908, and died on the 19th of August, 1909, and John Howard, who was born on October 20, 1909, died on the 25th of October, following.

Richmond Johnson, formerly a prosperous farmer but now retired from active life, resides in Forest. He was born in Richmond, New York, in 1828, and is a son of Michael and Permelia (Standish) Johnson, both natives of New York state. The parents were married in New York and later moved to Hancock county, Ohio. Michael Johnson was a tailor by trade, and had children as follows: Emily, Sarah (deceased), Horace (deceased), and Richmond. The only two surviving are Richmond and Emily. Horace served in the Civil war, in the Eighty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry; he was wounded and made a prisoner of war, and never recovered from its effects.

Richmond Johnson received his education in the public schools of his native county; he was reared on a farm and has spent most of his life in agricultural pursuits, in which he has been more than ordinarily successful. He moved with his parents to Hancock county, Ohio, in 1839, and by his industry and close attention to his financial interests he was able to purchase one farm after another until he was possessed of three hundred acres of land, and besides had a good bank account. Besides his holdings in Hancock county he now owns twenty acres in Forest, where he resides. He is highly esteemed by his fellow citizens, and has been honored with some township offices. Mr. Johnson is a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a public-spirited citizen, and actively interested in public affairs.

Mr. Johnson has been twice married, first, in 1863, to Amanda Burrell, by whom he had five children, two of whom survive, namely: William and John. In 1878 Mr. Johnson married Sarah Spencer, who was born in Richland county, Ohio, in 1846; to this union were born children as follows: Addie, wife of D. Conover; Ethel, Mrs. R. Thompson; Harlow and Clifford. Mr. Johnson has had eleven grandchildren. He uses his influence for all good causes, and is a useful member of society.

John F. Highslip.—Among the representative citizens of Cessna township is numbered John F. Highslip, who was born within the

borders of the township on the 11th of January, 1858, a son of Andrew and Sarah A. (Lee) Highslip, the father born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and the mother in London, England. They were married in Cessna township of Hardin county, and of the seven children which blessed their marriage union only a son and daughter are now living, the latter, Phoebe J., being the wife of John Sharf.

John F. Highslip, the only living son, was reared in his native township of Cessna, receiving his educational training in its district schools, and in his later life he has become one of its most influential and best known business men. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of land within the township, and is extensively engaged in the breeding of Rambouillet sheep. His sheep have won many premiums at the state fairs and at other exhibits, and he is a member of the Sheep Breeders Association. During 1886 and 1887 Mr. Highslip served in the capacity of a fireman on the Erie railroad, but aside from this his energies have been mostly directed toward his farming and stock raising. He is one of the active workers in the local ranks of the Democratic party and is a member of the present board of trustees of Cessna township.

On the 29th of September, 1880, Mr. Highslip was married to Martha A. Jackson, a native daughter of Cessna township, born on the 7th of April, 1857, and they have become the parents of five children: Elva, born September 6, 1881, and now the wife of Clarence Steiner; Cary H., deceased; Goldie B., born March 3, 1888, the wife of Earl Bowman; William R., born January 15, 1892; and Corolena E., born April 9, 1897. Mrs. Highslip belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church at Huntersville. Mr. Highslip finds his chief recreation from business in hunting, and has several fine specimens of deer which he has killed in the forests of Michigan.

William W. Runser, attorney at law and general manager of the Water, Heat & Light Company at Ada, Ohio, occupies a place among the leading citizens of the town. He was born in Marion township, Hardin county, Ohio, March 4, 1870, son of Charles W. and Martha M. (Lawrence) Runser, the former a native of Massillon, Stark county, Ohio, and the latter, of Pennsylvania. Charles W. Runser when a boy came with his parents, Andrew and Isabel Runser, to Hardin county and settled on a farm in Marion township, his father being the second owner of this land after it passed out of the hands of the government. Here Charles W. spent his boyhood days and grew to manhood, assisting his father in clearing and cultivating their pioneer farm. The Lawrence family came from Pennsylvania to Ohio in the early history of the state and settled in Hardin county, where they lived for several years and from whence they subsequently moved to Champaign county, Illinois. It was in Champaign county that Charles W. Runser and Martha M. Lawrence were married. The same year they were married they returned to Ohio and settled on a farm in Marion township, Hardin county, where they are still living. They have five sons, all of Hardin county, namely: Clarence D. and William, of Ada; Charles C., of Marion township; and Roscoe A. and Franklin J., of Liberty township.

William W. Runser was reared at the old homestead and received his early training at Rising Sun school in Marion township. Later he entered the Ohio Northern University at Ada, where he graduated in the classical course in 1897, and in the law department in 1898. In October of the last named year he was admitted to the bar, and from that time until July, 1904, he was a teacher in the department from which he had just graduated. After teaching for six years he engaged in the practice of law, in which he has since been occupied in connection with other business. He was one of the organizers of the Ada Water, Heat & Light Company, and is now its secretary and general manager. Also he is interested in a building and loan business.

Fraternally Mr. Runser is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and with the Free and Accepted Masons, having membership in the lodge and chapter at Ada and in the commandery at Lima.

Judson A. Rarey.—Energetic and enterprising, Judson A. Rarey is extensively engaged in agricultural pursuits in Hardin county, his home farm in Pleasant township being one of the best managed and finest improved of any in the neighborhood, the estate having an air of prosperity that invariably attracts the attention of the passer-by, and gives evidence of the excellent judgment he displays in his operations. A son of the late Nicholas Rarey, he was born August 16, 1865, in the township where he now resides, and where his life has since been spent. His paternal grandfather, Parker Rarey, a native of Virginia, was a pioneer of Franklin county, Ohio, locating there early in the nineteenth century. He married Mary Burgett, who was born in Maryland, and of the eight children born to them two are now living, namely: Clorinda and Martha A.

Nicholas Rarey was born, March 2, 1824, in Franklin county, Ohio, which was likewise the birthplace of his cousin, John S. Rarey, who achieved a world-wide reputation as a horse tamer and trainer. A farmer by occupation, he settled in Pleasant township, Hardin county, and on the land that he improved spent his last years, dying November 12, 1903. He was twice married, by his first wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Johnson, having five children, as follows: Aroh M., Ann E., Francis M., Jefferson P. and Parker A., all of whom are deceased save Ann E., who is the wife of J. C. Johnson. He married second, November 23, 1854, Maria L. Allen, who was born in Ohio, on the banks of the Scioto river, January 4, 1834, and died December 6, 1906. She was a daughter of A. H. and Rebecca Allen. To her and her husband five children were born, namely: Iva R., deceased, was born October 24, 1855; Clarinda E., deceased, born March 18, 1858; Maria L., born March 20, 1860, is the wife of J. Bishop; Judson A., subject of this brief sketch; and Edmund M., born May 19, 1871. Mr. Rarey served in the Civil war from May, 1864, until September, 1864, being a member of Company A, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Ohio National Guards.

Developing into a sturdy manhood on the home farm, Judson A. Rarey received his elementary education in the district schools, after

which he took a classical and business course at the Ohio Northern University in Ada, Ohio. He has since devoted his energies mostly to agricultural pursuits, and in his operations has met with marked success and now owns two valuable farms, his home estate of one hundred and eighty-seven acres, and a farm of one hundred and fifteen acres in Dudley township.

Mr. Rarey married, in 1889, Iva A. Marshall, who was born August 11, 1867, in Union county, Ohio, a daughter of J. C. Marshall, who served as a soldier in the Civil war for three years, being a member of the Eighty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, from which he was honorably discharged at the close of the conflict. He was born, December 26, 1841, in Union county, Ohio, a son of Joshua and Annetta (Coolidge) Marshall. On April 1, 1866, Mr. Marshall married Sarah Ann Evans, whose birth occurred, February 4, 1845, in Champaign county, Ohio, and to them five children were born, as follows: Iva Annetta, wife of Mr. Rarey; Fred E., born December 22, 1869; Joseph, born July 29, 1873; Victor J., born May 4, 1880; and Park, born August 2, 1885, who died March 7, 1889. J. C. Marshall died October 12, 1908, and his wife in 1892.

Francis M. Rarey, the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Rarey, was born August 23, 1890, in Pleasant township, Hardin county. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Alfred T. Sponsler, a prominent farmer and stockman of Cessna township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born in Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, November 22, 1847, a son of Jacob and Margaret (Slonaker) Sponsler, both natives of Pennsylvania. Jacob Sponsler and his wife were reared in their native state and after their marriage settled in Hardin county, Ohio, spending the remainder of their lives in Taylor Creek township. He became prosperous and well-to-do, clearing and improving his land. He was the father of nine children, of whom seven are still living (1910).

The boyhood and youth of Alfred T. Sponsler were spent on his father's farm in Taylor Creek township; he went to the district school winters and helped with the farm work as soon as old enough. He was an ambitious student and acquired sufficient education to enable him to teach, which he continued six winter terms. He received his professional training in the normal school in Lebanon, Ohio.

In 1873 Mr. Sponsler married Joanna Baldwin, and they had three children, as follows: Minnie, wife of Alfred H. Fulton; Ora, a graduate of Kenton high school and also of Delaware College; and Francis C., of Denver, Colorado. Mrs. Sponsler died October 14, 1896, and Mr. Sponsler married for his second wife Mrs. Minnie (Roby) Cessna, widow of Grant Cessna, by whom she had one child, Meva. Of the second marriage one child was born, Inez S., attending school. Mr. Sponsler and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Fairview, in which he is a trustee, and he has served many years in the capacity of superintendent and assistant superintendent of Sunday schools. Politically he is a Republican and has served as a member of the school board.

He owns three hundred and twelve acres of fine, fertile farm land in Cessna and Lynn townships, which he has all under cultivation, and looks carefully after the conduct of his farms. He makes a specialty of stock raising and has a good grade of stock. His present handsome residence was erected in 1903, and it is well situated on a pleasant site; the house has every modern convenience and is equipped with a hot water plant. Mr. Sponsler makes a study of modern methods and is an enterprising, up-to-date farmer. He is actively interested in public affairs and is a public-spirited, useful citizen.

Charles W. Lease is one of the representative farmers of Washington township, where he owns a splendid estate of one hundred and eighty acres. He has owned this land since 1893, and he has made many needed and valuable improvements thereon since it has been his home, and during these years he has also served his township as trustee. Born in Logan county, Ohio, July 10, 1854, he is a son of George and Johanna Lease, who moved from Logan county to Taylor Creek township in Hardin county in 1863, and their names are therefore enrolled among the pioneers of this county. Mr. Lease was a son of Samuel Lease, who had moved from Ross county, this state, to Logan county in the early year of 1826. On locating in Hardin county George Lease purchased ninety acres of wild and unimproved land, and moving into a little log cabin he set to work to clear his land and prepare it for cultivation, and all this he succeeded in accomplishing in due time. He bought land from time to time till he had two hundred and twenty-seven acres. Of the three children which were born of his marriage the two now living are Margaret, wife of C. E. Beckett, of this county, and Charles W.

Although born in Logan county Charles W. Lease was reared and educated in Hardin county, spending several terms at Ada University, and a part of his early life was devoted to educational work. Moving to Kansas in 1885, he lived there until 1893, and returning then to Hardin he purchased and moved to his present homestead. In 1880 he was married to Miss Rebecca Hakes, and a son Lloyd R. has been born to them. Mr. Lease is a member of the fraternal order of Odd Fellows and one of the Patrons of Husbandry, and his religious home is with the Presbyterian church, which he has served as the superintendent of its Sunday school and as an active church worker, he being an elder in the church. The son, Lloyd R., who lives on the home place with his father, married Louise Willike of this township, a daughter of J. H. Willike. They have three children: Georgia Lucile, Charles Wilbur and Lloyd Willis.

Daniel H. Wagner.—Among the native born citizens of Hardin county who have spent their lives within its boundaries, aiding in every possible way its growth and development, whether relating to its agricultural or financial interests, stands Daniel H. Wagner, of Kenton, whose birth occurred, May 21, 1841, in Pleasant township, where his father, Samuel Wagner, was a pioneer. John Wagner, his paternal grandfather, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and was at the battle of

C. W. Lease.

H. Rebecca Scare.

Yorktown and witnessed the surrender of Cornwallis. He was a life-long resident of Pennsylvania, and there his wife, Susanna Lees, also spent her years.

A native of Berks county, Pennsylvania, Samuel Wagner was born November 8, 1800. Reared to habits of industry and thrift, he began working in a flour mill at the age of eighteen years, and during the next seven years became master of the trade of a miller. Going then to Hagerstown, Maryland, he became manager of what was then the largest flouring mill in the country. In 1833 he came to Hardin county, locating as a pioneer in Pleasant township. All of this section of the country was then in its pristine wildness, the greater part of the land being owned by the government and on sale at one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre. He helped build the first log cabin in what is now the town of Kenton, and then the surrounding woods was inhabited by deer, bears, wolves, and wild animals of all descriptions. Selecting what he deemed the most desirable piece of land in Pleasant township, he entered it from the government, and soon began the arduous task of hewing a farm from the wilderness. A man of indomitable resolution and perseverance, he succeeded in his efforts, redeeming a fine homestead, and subsequently assisted each of his children to homes. He passed to the higher life November 17, 1891, at the venerable age of ninety-one years. On December 25, 1834, he married Mary Hossman, who was born in Carroll county, Ohio. Her father, Levi Hossman, a Virginian by birth, was an early settler of Carroll county. From there he came, in 1833, to Pleasant township, Hardin county, where he secured a tract of government land, on which he resided a number of years, busily engaged in farming. He subsequently removed to Iowa, and there spent the last days of his life. He married Mary Wilson, who was born in New York city, the descendant of a wealthy English family. Samuel Wagner and his wife reared eleven children, as follows: Susan, Levi, Catherine A., Daniel H., Mary A., Margaret E., Samuel T., Rachel E., Eunice C., Isadore P., and Pheotas V.

Reared to agricultural pursuits, Daniel H. Wagner found farming congenial to his tastes, and after his marriage settled on land belonging to his father, on section twenty-seven in Pleasant township. He later succeeded to the ownership of the land, and managed it successfully until 1900, when he rented that property and removed to the home he now occupies on East Columbus street, Kenton.

Mr. Wagner has been twice married. He married first, November 5, 1868, Rachel Emmons, who was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, June 28, 1848. Her parents, William J. and Sarah Emmons, settled in Goshen township, Hardin county, in 1850, but subsequently removed to Kenton, where they lived the remainder of their years. Mrs. Rachel Wagner died September 5, 1885, leaving two children, namely: Carroll, who married Laura Kahler, by whom he has four children, Dan K., Edward C., Margaret and Carroll Richard; and William Dowling, who married Callie Amweg. Mr. Wagner married, September 21, 1887, Florence Williamson, who was born in Pleasant township, Hardin county, October 30, 1857, a daughter of Nathaniel and Serena (Davis)

Williamson, of whom a brief personal history may be found elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Wagner are the parents of three children, namely: Mary, who graduated from the Kenton high school and is now a student in Hiram College; and Esther and John A., twins. Religiously Mr. and Mrs. Wagner are faithful members of the Church of Christ.

J. A. Orth has for years been a prominent factor in the business affairs of the town of Dunkirk, Ohio. He is a native of this state, born in Wayne county February 26, 1836, but since he was six weeks old he has lived in Hardin county, and most of the time since 1871 has made his home in Dunkirk. Here he has acquired considerable property and has varied interests. When a young man he ran a sawmill for seven years, and for more than thirty years his planing mill, situated on North Main street, just outside the corporation limits and covering about two acres of land, has been the scene of no little activity. This plant is now operated by a twenty horse power gasoline engine.

While in Washington township, Mr. Orth served as assessor, and after he came to Dunkirk he filled that office, and he also served as a member of the town council. As in the conduct of his private affairs he has always been progressive, he has shown himself alert to promote the best interests of the town.

In 1864, when the Civil war cloud hung heavy over the land, Mr. Orth, as a member of the Seventh Company, Ohio Volunteers, was detailed to duty at General Sherman's headquarters, during that General's famous march to the sea. Mr. Orth served until July 28, 1865, when he was honorably discharged and returned to the little family he had left behind.

In 1860 he was happily married to Miss Barbara Markley, who bore him seven children, six of whom grew to maturity, namely: Edward, a druggist of Lima, Ohio; William, of Dunkirk; Charles of Columbus, Ohio; Olive, now Mrs. Hendershot, of Michigan; J. B. and Frederick, both of Dunkirk.

Of Mr. Orth's parents, Adam and Mary E. (Trontman) Orth, we record that both were born and reared in Germany. Adam Orth emigrated to America about 1832. He was a sturdy, honest man with an ambition to become a good citizen of his adopted country. On his arrival in Washington township, Hardin county, Ohio, he entered two hundred acres of land from the Government, this land being then in its primitive state, covered with a heavy growth of timber. About half of this tract he cleared and brought under cultivation. Then he sold out. Afterward he bought two other tracts of land in the same township, where he lived up to the time of his death, in 1870. It is worthy of record here, that Adam Orth was the first man in Washington township to own a yoke of oxen. One night, accompanied by his son John, he was returning home with a load of provisions and lost his way in the dense forest. Unable to get his bearings, he turned his oxen loose, trusting to their instinct to find their way home, and he followed them, leaving his son to protect the cart load of provisions from the wild animals. As he supposed, the cattle found their way home, and the next

morning he returned with them for the cart and the boy. Adam Orth was twice married, first to a Miss Weaver in Germany, by whom he had five children: George, John, Leonard, Margaret and Elizabeth. On the death of this wife he repaired to Germany, where he subsequently married Miss Mary E. Troutman, the mother of the subject of this sketch. Her children are John J., J. A. and Frederick, the latter dying in 1855. Mr. Orth died on the 28th of November, 1906.

C. E. Ludwig is numbered among the younger representatives of the agricultural interests of Washington township, where by his own unaided efforts he has made for himself and family a delightful home with pleasant surroundings. Here he owns a splendid estate of eighty acres, highly improved and cultivated. Mr. Ludwig was born in Wyandot county, Ohio, in 1872, but he was reared and educated in Hardin county, whither he had come with his parents, G. C. and Lydia A. (Owens) Ludwig, also born in Wyandot county, on the 22d of March, 1882. The senior Mr. Ludwig purchased a farm of one hundred and two acres of unimproved land near the town of Dola, which he improved and finally sold, then buying in 1894, the farm which his son now owns, the latter purchasing it in 1899. George C. Ludwig has held the office of assessor, and has been quite prominent in the life of his community. By his first wife he has six children: George C., Jr., C. E., F. J., R. F., May and Bertha. The mother of these children died on the 17th of January, 1905, and in 1907 Mr. Ludwig was married to Mattie H. Matthews, widow of the late Elmer Matthews and a most estimable lady.

C. E. Ludwig has been identified with agricultural pursuits from early life, and he has been very successful in this calling. In 1893 he was married to Miss Adella, a daughter of Homer and Martha Vaughn, and they have five children: Irvin D., Fay E., Homer H., Ernest D. and Anna F. Mrs. Ludwig was born in Medina county, Ohio. Mr. Ludwig is a worthy member and an elder of the Presbyterian church at Dola, and he is also prominently identified with the order of Patrons and Industry.

Dr. Albert Edwin Smith, D. D., Ph. D.—As president of the Ohio Northern University at Ada, Dr. Albert Edwin Smith, D. D., Ph. D., is carrying on an important work, through his wise administration gradually elevating this institution to a place of great prominence and influence among the sectarian schools of the country. A son of the late H. E. Smith, he was born, December 16, 1860, in Clermont county, Ohio. His paternal grandfather, Albert Edwin Smith, for whom he was named, migrated from Germany to this country in 1848, settling first in New York city, from there coming to Marietta, Ohio, where he was engaged in business until his death, at the age of sixty-seven years.

H. E. Smith was born in Berlin, Germany, and there received his elementary education. At the age of thirteen years he came across the ocean with his parents, and here completed his school life. In September, 1861, he enlisted in the Fifty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and for more than four years served in the defense of his adopted country, taking part in many engagements of importance during the Civil war.

He subsequently continued his residence in Clermont county until his death, when but sixty-four years of age. He married, in Clermont county, Mary A. Lindsey, whose parents, Levi and Mary A. Lindsey, were pioneer settlers of that part of Ohio. His widow is still living. Ten children blessed their union, nine sons, all of whom are living, and a daughter that died when but fifteen months old.

The eldest child of the family, Dr. Albert Edwin Smith, spent his boyhood days at New Richmond, Ohio, gleaning his first knowledge of books in the common schools. At the age of fourteen years he became self supporting, working at anything he could find to do, being employed on a farm, in a brick yard and in a saw mill. At the age of nineteen years he entered the New Richmond high school, where he studied for a year. He subsequently worked his way through the Clermont Academy, of which J. K. Parker was then the principal, being graduated with the class of 1883, in June. The following year the Doctor preached on the Chilo circuit, having charge of four churches in Clermont county. Going then to Delaware, Ohio, in the fall of 1884, he entered the classical department of the Ohio Wesleyan University, from which he was graduated in 1887. Joining then the Central Ohio Conference, the Doctor had charge of the four churches on the York circuit for four years. The following three years he was located in Celina, Mercer county, Ohio, from there going to Toledo, where he became the first pastor of the Epworth church, of which he had charge for a year. Dr. Smith was afterwards pastor of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal church in Defiance for four years, and was engaged in his ministerial labors at Marion, Ohio, for six years, having charge of Epworth Methodist Episcopal church, the largest church in the conference. On June 27, 1905, he was elected president of the Ohio Northern University, and on July 20 of that year assumed the duties of the position, which he has since held. The Doctor is a man of strong personality, and those who have the pleasure of his acquaintance find him a polished gentleman, broadened by extensive travel, not only in our own country but throughout Europe and the Holy Land, and by contact with public men and public affairs.

Dr. Smith married, October 26, 1887, Harriet Vergon, who was born in Delaware, Ohio, and was there educated, being graduated from the Ohio Wesleyan University on the very same day that her husband received his diploma. Her parents, F. P. and Catherine Vergon, were pioneer settlers of Delaware county, where her father has been for many years a prominent apple grower. Seven children have been born to Dr. and Mrs. Smith, namely: Rachel, Edwin, Paul, Seth, deceased, Harriet, Easter, deceased, and Benjamin. The Doctor has taken the degrees of B. A., M. A. and of Ph. D., and has twice had the degree of D. D. conferred upon him.

E. B. Hiestand, M. D., & Son.—E. B. Hiestand, M. D., one of the leading physicians of Hardin county, has the distinction of being the longest established practitioner of Kenton, where he has built up an exceedingly remunerative patronage, his wisdom and skill gaining for him the confidence of the community. Having some years ago admitted

E. B. Hiestand,

his son to partnership, the firm of E. B. Hiestand & Son has become widely known throughout this section of the county, and is often called upon for counsel and advice as well as for its regular practice. A native of Ohio, Dr. E. B. Hiestand was born, April 11, 1830, in Fairfield county, a son of the Rev. Samuel Hiestand.

Rev. Samuel Hiestand was born and bred in Maryland, coming from both the paternal and maternal sides of the house of German ancestry. Educated for the ministry, he was connected with the United Brethren church during his active career, at the time of his death, when but fifty-six years of age, having been a bishop of the church. He married Anna Rodabough, who was born in Ohio, of German parentage, and they became the parents of six sons and four daughters, all of whom grew to years of maturity, E. B., the subject of this sketch, being the seventh child and the fifth son.

The only survivor of the parental household, E. B. Hiestand, has had a long and useful career, in which he has met with success from the start, in the meantime gaining great popularity not only as a physician and surgeon, but as an esteemed and respected citizen. At the age of fourteen years, having obtained his rudimentary education in the common schools of Baltimore, Ohio, he entered the Starling Medical College, at Columbus, Ohio, where he was graduated, with the degree of M. D., in 1863. Beginning his medical career in Ansonia, Darke county, Ohio, Dr. E. B. Hiestand subsequently continued his practice at Canonburg, Hancock county, at North Washington and at Ada, Hardin county. Coming, in 1874, from the latter place to Kenton, he has since continued here. He is finely educated, by reading and study having kept in close touch with the modern methods of treating diseases, both as regards medicine and surgery. He has won three diplomas, receiving the first one at the Starling Medical College, the second at Rush Medical College, where he likewise took a post graduate course, and the third at the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, where he also took a post graduate course. The Doctor is prominent in medical circles, being a member of the American Medical Association; of the State Medical Society; of the Northwestern Medical Association of Ohio; and of the Hardin County Medical Association.

Dr. Hiestand married, June 17, 1856, Hadassah Ann Harris, who was born in Mahoning county, Ohio, and they have one son living, namely: Howard E. Hiestand, M. D., junior member of the firm of Dr. E. B. Hiestand & Son. Fraternally the Doctor is very prominent in the Masonic order, belonging to the lodge, chapter, council, commandery and to the shrine. He is a Democrat in politics, and in 1863 received the nomination for representative to the state legislature, but was defeated at the polls, his district being a Republican stronghold.

Professor John G. Park.—The corps of instructors of the Ohio Northern University at Ada includes scholars of distinction and merit, noteworthy among whom is Professor John G. Park, one of the original promoters and owners of the school from which this institution has been developed. A native of Ohio, he was born, September 20, 1849, in

Hancock county, a son of William Park. He comes of Scotch ancestry, and his grandfather Park, a resident of Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war.

William Park was born in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, in 1811, and was there brought up and educated. About 1836 he came to Ohio, locating in Knox county, where he lived for four years, superintending in the meantime the construction of Walhonding Canal. Moving to Hancock county in 1840, he purchased land, and on the farm which he improved spent the remainder of his life, passing away at the venerable age of eighty-two years. He married Mary Riley, whose father was of Irish descent, and her mother of Scotch ancestry. Her parents were early settlers of Knox county, locating there when the country roundabout was in its original wildness, the wild woods being still the "happy hunting grounds" of the dusky savage, who had not then fled before the advancing steps of civilization. She survived her husband, attaining the advanced age of eighty-nine years. Of the nine children born of their union all but one are now living, John G., the special subject of this brief biographical sketch, being the sixth child in succession of birth, and the second son.

Brought up on the parental homestead in Orange township, Hancock county, John G. Park received his preliminary education in the district schools, afterwards being graduated from the high school in Ada, which was but five and one-half miles from his home. In 1870 he became interested in the school which has since developed into the Ohio Northern University, in partnership with Dr. Lehr and B. F. Neisz becoming its owner, and retaining the ownership until selling the college and its buildings to the Methodist Episcopal denomination. Professor Park was one of the first teachers of the institution, and with the exception of six months spent at Eureka College, in Eureka, Illinois, continued as one of its instructors until it was sold. In 1907 Professor Park resumed his connection with the University, teaching two hours each day. He publishes his own English Analysis. His English Grammar and Language Work is published by the American Book Company. The Professor is officially connected with the Liberty Bank, of which he is one of the directorate, and has extensive interests in other lines and the owner of valuable farming property in Hardin county.

Professor Park married Lydia J. Wilson, who was born in Hardin county, Ohio, a daughter of H. H. and Mary Jane Wilson. Her father was an early settler of Hardin county, and for many years active in public affairs, serving as county commissioner. Mrs. Park is a woman of talent and culture, and a graduate of the School of Art connected with the Ohio Northern University. The Professor is a Republican in his political affiliations, and a valued member of the Christian church, in which he has been an elder for many years. He has been very influential in promoting the work of the Sunday school, in which he has taught for thirty-four years.

W. F. Kurtz, an enterprising and progressive farmer of Jackson township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born in Germany, in 1849, and is

a son of W. M. and Ann (Windish) Kurtz. W. M. Kurtz and his wife were married in Germany and emigrated to the United States with their family, in 1858, locating in Wyandot county, Ohio, where they remained many years. Mr. Kurtz owned one hundred and sixty acres of land there, which later became the property of his son, W. F. Kurtz. Of the children of W. M. Kurtz and his wife the following survive: W. F., Charles, Minnie, Frank and Sherman.

The boyhood of W. F. Kurtz was spent in Wyandot county, Ohio, and he received a fair education. He taught school two years before engaging in farming on his own account. When a young man Mr. Kurtz went to Kansas and spent one year in that state, and returning to Ohio he located in Henry county, where he remained two years. After spending a short time in Hancock county he moved to Hardin county in 1884, and has made this a permanent residence since. Mr. Kurtz has made his own way in the world since he was old enough to do so, and has shown himself to possess great energy and ambition, acquiring a position of independence and comfort. He now owns four hundred and sixteen acres of land in Jackson township, where he resides, and two hundred acres in Wyandot county, Ohio. His wife owns one hundred and eight acres of land in Hancock county.

Mr. Kurtz is actively interested in public affairs and is a representative, useful citizen. He is well known and popular in the community, and highly respected for his business ability. He is vice president of the First National Bank of Forest and has served on the school board. Mr. Kurtz is an active and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and supports every good cause.

In 1881 Mr. Kurtz was united in marriage with Alice Moffitt, a native of Hancock county, Ohio, born in 1852, and to this union have been born eight children, as follows: Bertha (deceased), Clifford, Estey F., Ray, Gail, Roy and Moffitt and Olivet, (twins). One of the twins, Moffitt, is deceased.

Michael Krock, a well known and prosperous farmer of Jackson township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born in Wyandot county, Ohio, in 1856. He is a son of Frederick and Barbara Krock, both natives of Germany, who emigrated to the United States as children, with their respective parents and located in Wyandot county. He became a successful farmer and purchased six hundred acres of land, which he brought to a high state of cultivation. He died in Wyandot county in 1902; his wife died in 1895. Their children were: Frederick, John, May, Lucy, Peter, Michael, Joseph, Henry, Fred and Charles. Michael is the only one who resides in Hardin county.

Michael Krock was reared in Wyandot county and educated in the common schools. Upon completing his education he chose the career of a farmer, in which line he has been very successful, as was his father before him. He settled in Hardin county in 1888 and purchased eighty acres of well cultivated land, and has made many further improvements in his place, having a comfortable home with pleasant surroundings. He is an industrious and progressive farmer and a

public spirited citizen. He has served as township trustee and as member of the school board. He is an earnest member of the Lutheran church of Kenton, Ohio.

About the time of his removal to Hardin county Mr. Krock married Lizzie Trautman, and they have become the parents of ten children, as follows: Annie, Tillie, Lucy, Effie, Florence, Lizzie, Henry, Edward, Charles and John. Annie, the oldest, is now Mrs. Lawrence Oldhauser. Mrs. Krock is also a native of Wyandot county, Ohio, born in 1866.

Jacob W. Grappy, one of the progressive farmers of Washington township, Hardin county, Ohio, dates his birth in Switzerland, December 5, 1858. He has been a resident of America, however, since 1862, when he was brought here by his parents, Nicholas and Mary A. (Struchen) Grappy, natives of Switzerland, who, upon their arrival in this country settled in Erie county, Pennsylvania. The Grappy family comprised nine children, namely: Nicholas; John; Benjamin, who died in 1873; Godfrey; Mary, who died in 1908; Godlieb; Jacob W., William and Frederick—the last two born in Erie county. In 1873, the whole family came to Ohio and took up their residence in Hardin county, where four of the sons are still living: Nicholas, William, Godlieb and Jacob W. The father bought forty acres of land in Blanchard township, south of Dunkirk, on which he made his home, and where he died in September, 1882, at the age of sixty-six years. The mother died in 1898.

Jacob W. Grappy spent his boyhood days from the time he was four until he was fifteen in Erie county, where he received a common school education and became familiar with the various kinds of farm work. He continued farming after coming to Ohio, for some years working for others and later engaging in agricultural pursuits on his own account. He now occupies a farm of one hundred and fourteen acres, situated between Dunkirk and Dola, a portion of which he has owned since 1897, the remainder he bought in 1907.

In 1884 Mr. Grappy married Miss Rose Hess, who was born in 1865, on the farm on which she resided until her death. She was a daughter of Philip and Elizabeth Hess, who settled in Hardin county, on the farm where Mr. Grappy now resides, in 1860. The children of this union are as follows: Frank (deceased), Florence, Myrtle (deceased), Emma, Carl, Mabel, Lucile, Emmerson, Devere, and an infant deceased. Mrs. Grappy passed away on the 26th of October, 1909, respected and loved by all who knew her. She was a kind mother and a loving wife.

That Mr. Grappy enjoys the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens is shown by the fact that he has been given the preference for local offices, such as township trustee and school director, both of which he filled with credit to himself and the community.

Asher Henry Derr, a prominent and prosperous farmer of Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born on the old Derr homestead in Taylor Creek township, in the old house which stands in the

rear of the present dwelling, October 24, 1862. He is a son of Levi and Mary E. (Duff) Derr, the former of whom now lives in Belle Center. Mrs. Derr died in 1902. They had children as follows: Asher H.; Martha A., wife of S. R. McNeill, of Taylor Creek township; Howard, a farmer of Buck township; Anna M., wife of Wilson Lowe, a farmer of Taylor Creek township; Ora J., deceased; Nettie, deceased; and one child that died in infancy. Levi Derr was born in Logan county, Ohio, April 23, 1838, son of Davis and Martha (Johnson) Derr, natives of Allegheny county, Pennsylvania. Davis Derr, who was born in 1803, moved to Logan county, Ohio, with his parents, in 1821. In 1855 they removed to Hardin county, settling in Taylor Creek township, where Levi Derr was born. Levi Derr enlisted, August 20, 1864, in Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served as guard for prisoners on Johnson's Island until July 17, 1865. Returning home, he followed farming until a few years ago, when he retired and moved to Belle Center. He was married, January 29, 1862, to Mary E., daughter of John and Sarah Duff, who was born in Logan county October 28, 1841.

After receiving his education in the public schools, Asher H. Derr worked on the farm for his father. When twenty-five years old he married and located on the Lowe farm, where he remained two years. After spending two years on the Ross farm in Buck township and two years on the Ritchie farm, he removed to Silver Creek, where he and his brother-in-law engaged in the grocery business. Two years later he sold out his interest and spent four years with his parents. In 1904 he settled on his present farm of eighty-two acres, where he carries on general farming and makes a specialty of stock raising. He has been very successful and is considered one of the enterprising, representative citizens of the township. He is a member of the United Presbyterian church of Silver Creek and is elder and treasurer of the church. He is a Republican and very active in his party's interests. He is serving his third year as a member of the school board.

In 1888 Mr. Derr married Anna Maie Wilson, who was born April 14, 1867, in Kenton, daughter of John R. Wilson, who now lives on East Summit street, Kenton, retired from active life. Mrs. Derr was raised by Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Douglas, of Lynn township. Mr. Derr and his wife became the parents of the following children: Levi Boyd, who died at the age of two years; Harry R., employed as a clerk in Silver Creek; Walter W., Oscar W. and Milo D., at home; and an infant, deceased.

Harvey A. Jacobs, a resident of Washington township, although not one of the older settlers is a progressive farmer and has at heart any enterprise that will advance the interests of his county and community. He was born in Van Wert, Ohio, in 1850, a son of William and Jane Jacobs, the father born in Pennsylvania and the mother in Warren county, Ohio. William Jacobs came to Ohio in 1822, and although by trade a tailor he later became identified with the agricultural interests of this county and was successful as a business man. His family numbered eleven children, namely: Eliza J., Lovisa A., Samuel, Elizabeth,

Sarah C., Harvey A., Edith M., Susan, Thomas K., John W. and one who died in infancy. William Jacobs died in the year of 1891, and his wife Jane died in 1905.

Harvey A. Jacobs was reared and educated in Allen county, Ohio, where during a number of years he was engaged in the manufacture of lumber, but in 1906 he sold his business there to come to Hardin county, here purchasing his present homestead farm of eighty acres in Washington township. He has since greatly improved this farm, and he is numbered prominently among Washington township's progressive business men. He has been twice married, wedding first Miss Rachel Moore, who was born in the mother country of England in 1856, and she died in the year of 1883. Their marriage took place in 1871, and three children were born to them: William W., Agnes G. and Rex C. For his second wife Mr. Jacobs married Miss Melita Williams, from Allen county, Ohio, in 1892, and they also have had three children: French A., Harry D. and Frank H. Jacobs. Mrs. Jacobs is the daughter of William D. and Docia A. (Shadley) Williams, the father a native of North Carolina and the mother of West Virginia. Both are deceased, the mother dying in February, 1905, and the father in January, 1907.

Hon. William P. Henderson, judge of the court of common pleas of the Tenth District of the state of Ohio, was born August 24, 1867, at Delaware, Ohio, of Scotch-Irish ancestry both on his father and his mother's side; his father was the Rev. Isaiah R. Henderson, one of the pioneer settlers of that part of the state, whose life work was in the ministry as a clergyman of the Central Ohio Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church; his mother's maiden name was Frances A. Price, who was born and lived prior to her marriage in Dutchess county, New York. His mother died in 1904, but his father is still living at Columbus, Ohio.

Judge Henderson received his early education in the public schools, and he graduated from the high school at Findlay, Ohio, in 1884. He entered the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, in the following fall, and was graduated from that institution in June, 1888. In the meantime, in the course of his labors as a Methodist minister, his father had been assigned to Kenton, Ohio, and had taken up his residence there with his family. Before his graduation from college Judge Henderson had begun the study of law in the office of the late Colonel L. M. Strong at Kenton, and he continued his studies under the same tuition and was admitted to the bar in October, 1889. Immediately upon his admission to the bar, a partnership was formed with Colonel Strong, which continued until 1893, when Colonel Strong retired from active practice, on account of declining health and his new work and responsibility as a member of congress.. Thenceforward Judge Henderson practiced his profession in Kenton alone. In November, 1908, he was elected to the common pleas bench and assumed his new duties January 1, 1909; he is still serving on the bench, earning and enjoying in a high degree the respect of the bar and the confidence of the community.

On February 25, 1890, Judge Henderson was married to Olive R. Sagebiel, a daughter of Herman and Ruth Sagebiel, of Kenton. Two children who still survive were born of this marriage, Berkeley W. and Dorcas Mary. Judge Henderson's tastes have been scholarly and his reading and information, both in his profession and in the fields of general literature, are wide and varied. He won success and prominence as a lawyer, being known not only for his ability in his profession, but as a man of strict integrity and high ideals.; while as a writer he is vigorous, forcible and precise, with a wide command of the English tongue and as a public speaker he has long been in frequent demand.

True to early training he is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal church at Kenton; in politics he is a Democrat.

William Guckes, a substantial and representative farmer of Blanchard township, where he owns and operates a productive farm of one hundred and thirty-two acres on the turn pike, was born in Erie county, Pennsylvania, July 11, 1856. He is a son of Jacob and Marguerite Guckes, both natives of Germany, who emigrated to this country before they were married, locating in Erie county. There they were married, and they became the parents of the following children: John, Jacob, Christian, William, Margaret, Kate and Mary. William and Margaret, the latter now deceased, were the only two who removed to Hardin county.

William Guckes was reared and educated in his native state and county and took up the occupation of farming. He resided in Erie county, Pennsylvania, until 1876, and then removed to Hardin county, where he now resides. He is a prosperous and intelligent farmer, with a well-tilled farm, on which he uses modern machinery. Mr. Guckes stands well in the community, and takes a commendable interest in local public affairs. He is a member of the Masonic order and takes an active interest in the cause of the fraternity; he has taken the high degree of Royal Arch Mason, and contemplates further advancement in the order.

In 1886 Mr. Guckes married Minnie Kirchofer, of Hardin county, and to them were born four children, only two of whom survive; they are: Charles R. and James M. Jacob and Emil died in infancy. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Dunkirk.

Chase L. Wilson, a leading and progressive farmer of Blanchard township, was born in Jackson township, Hardin county, Ohio, May 12, 1869. He is a son of Alva and Lovy (White) Wilson, both natives of Hancock county, Ohio. In 1865 they located in Hardin county, where Mr. Wilson bought one hundred and sixty acres of land. By dint of hard work he brought this land to its present fertility and high state of cultivation. He offered his services to his country in the Civil war and was enrolled a member of a company in the One Hundred and Eightieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He served with credit for three years and was honorably discharged. Mr. Wilson died in February, 1902, and his wife died in 1889. He was an active member of the Grand

Army of the Republic. Mr. Wilson and his wife had children as follows: William H., Wallace W. and Chase L., besides one who died in childhood.

Chase L. Wilson was reared and educated in his native county, and chose the calling of a farmer, in which line he has met with gratifying success. Before buying his present farm he owned one hundred and eighty acres in the same township, forty of which he now owns, besides one hundred and twenty acres where he now lives, which he purchased in 1904. His farm is about a mile and a half south of Dunkirk, on the turnpike, and presents the appearance of a model farm, with well constructed and substantial buildings. He has modern conveniences and owns a beautiful home. He is universally respected and esteemed and is considered a representative, useful citizen.

Mr. Wilson married first Eva McRee, to whom four children were born, namely: Leona, Zola, Blanch and Isabella (deceased). Mr. Wilson married, on November 25, 1904, Blanche O'Rourk, and to them has been born one child, Josephine.

Jesse Snodgrass, M. D.—Prominent among the highly respected and best known physicians of Kenton is Jesse Snodgrass, M. D., who has been here successfully employed in the practice of his profession for upwards of forty years, being, with but one exception, the longest established physician of this section of Hardin county. An Ohioan by birth and breeding, he was born, June 7, 1841, at New Concord, Muskingum county, being the oldest of the family of five children born to David and Cathrine (Phillips) Snodgrass. His father, a native of Pennsylvania, migrated to Ohio in early life, settling first in Muskingum county, later moving to Hardin county, where he worked at farming and shoemaking.

But five years of age when his parents located in Kenton, Jesse Snodgrass was here educated primarily, completing the course of study in the common and high schools. In 1860 he began the study of medicine, attending lectures at the Starling Medical College. In 1862, inspired by patriotic zeal, he enlisted as a private in Company H, Seventy-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served for thirteen months, when, on account of physical disability, he was honorably discharged. Being, in August, 1863, made assistant surgeon of the Eighth Tennessee Volunteer Infantry, he served in that capacity until the close of the conflict, being discharged in July, 1865. In the autumn of that year he entered the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, at New York City, and in 1867 was there graduated with the degree of M. D. Dr. Snodgrass immediately settled as a practitioner in Kenton, until 1871 being in partnership with Dr. W. H. Phillips. He subsequently practiced alone until 1908, when he admitted to partnership his son, W. C. Snodgrass, M. D. For many years the Doctor has enjoyed a large and lucrative general practice in this place, his natural talents, skill and varied experience classing him among the more successful physicians of the city.

Dr. Snodgrass has been twice married. He married first, June 10, 1869, Emily Coggshall, who died December 4, 1877, leaving one son, W.

Jesse Snodgrass M. D

C. Snodgrass, M. D. The Doctor married, second, February 25, 1885, Lillian Dunn, and they are the parents of two children, Helen and Catherine.

Dr. Snodgrass is a member of numerous societies, including the Hardin County, the Northwestern Ohio, the Ohio State and the American Medical Societies. Fraternally he is prominent in the Masonic order, belonging to the lodge, chapter, and commandery; is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; of the Loyal Legion; and of the Grand Army of the Republic. In politics he is a stanch Republican, but has never been an office seeker, his time and energies having been devoted to the duties of his profession.

William M. Beckman.—To William M. Beekman belongs the credit of giving to Kenton and Hardin county the first permanent daily newspaper, for the paper he established can scarcely be said to belong to Kenton alone. He also founded the *Kenton Graphic-News,* a weekly sheet that immediately found favor with the people and enjoyed a large circulation. No citizen of the county did more for the printing business both before and after he consolidated the *Daily News* with the *Kenton Republican* than he did.

Mr. Beekman was born in Tiffin, Ohio, May 21, 1860, and at a very early age came to Kenton where the rest of his life was spent. He graduated from the public schools of this city, in 1878, and shortly afterwards was called to a place in the office of the *Hardin County Republican,* then owned by A. W. Miller. Mr. Beckman always said his taking up the printing pusiness was due to an accident, but he faithfully performed every duty that came to his hand then and always. Mr. Miller was ill and away from the office much of the time and the illness resulted in his death February 17, 1880, when Mr. Beckman was made manager of the plant. Later, when George W. Rutledge bought out the *Republican,* Mr. Beekman resigned his position for a time and taught school at Bateson school in Cessna township. He also worked for David Fisher in the *Democrat* office, but his real newspaper work began with the founding of the *Daily News.* He owned and operated a job printing office in a room on the west side of the square upstairs, which he purchased from Robert McCurdy in 1883, and which he afterwards moved to the room over Held's tin store. But with the establishment of his printing office in the Paulucci room on West Franklin street in 1889 the real work of his life began.

A Kenton company had founded a little paper called "*The Common People,*" which Mr. Beekman printed for them on his press, but it was not a financial success and was allowed to die out. When this was discontinued Mr. Beekman and Harry Edsell founded the *Kenton Daily News,* which was a non-partisan paper, and which started off at once with a large subscription list. This was in 1890, and late in the same year the *Kenton Graphic-News* was founded by the same publishers. Some years later the plant was visited by a disastrous fire, but the enterprising publishers quickly recovered from this blow. In 1896 Mr. Edsell retired from the business to go west, and the same year Mr.

Beckman purchased the *Hardin County Republican* plant, which was then running two papers, "*The Hardin County Republican*," a weekly and the "*Kenton Daily Republican*." He moved the stock and equipment to the "*News-Republican*" office, and there consolidated the two dailies under the name of "*The News-Republican*," under which it is still issued. He continued both weekly papers, one Republican in politics and the other non-partisan.

The newspapers soon outgrew their quarters, and in 1903, the present commodious structure at the corner of Main and Ohio streets was put up for a permanent home for the business. Just as moving from the old quarters had begun, a fire almost completely destroyed the new building, entailing a great loss upon the company. The following spring the building was completed, and from it the various publications have since been issued by the Kenton Republican Company, which was incorporated in 1903. For some years Mr. George E. Crane had owned a share of the stock, but in 1903 he disposed of his interests to Mr. F. B. Wilson, and later Mr. Wilson purchased another one-fourth share, making him half owner of the plant. In 1907, on account of failing health, Mr. Beckman retired from the business which he had built up and had so ably conducted for many years.

Though of a modest retiring disposition, Mr. Beckman was a shrewd business man and an able editor. He entered the newspaper field when bitter personalities were the order of the day, but though made the target for personal abuse many times, he never stooped to reply to any of the unfair attacks. He held his papers above petty spite and mean personalities, often against the advice of his best friends, but in time people came to see that he had adopted the wisest course. He kept himself clear from all warring factions, and gave to his patrons a clean, well edited family newspaper that still enjoys the confidence of the public. Almost from youth he was in delicate health, yet he possessed an unlimited capacity for hard work, and was ever of a hopeful disposition. If his body could have kept pace with his ever alert, brilliant mind, there is no doubt that his achievements would have been greater, but as it was he built up one of Kenton's most flourishing enterprises in spite of ill health. He was always optimistic, cheery and busy, never allowing his personal feelings to appear in his actions and words. His life was one long struggle with disease, yet with all he accomplished more than many men in vigorous health.

For several years Mr. Beckman spent the winters in El Paso, Texas, with his family, finding the altitude and bracing climate just suited to his needs, but as he improved in health year by year he thought to carry out a long cherished plan of tourng Europe with his mother and sisters. His health was so much improved that he had made plans to re-enter the business world, but before doing this a sojourn abroad lasting nearly a year was planned, beginning with a winter in Naples On December 8, 1909, the family sailed for Naples, arriving there on the day before Christmas. The climate proved too harsh for Mr. Beckman, and in January they started back to America. The entire journey brought much suffering to him, but he reached El Paso Feb-

ruary 8, and was taken at once to a hospital for treatment. The hard winter and progress of the disease while traveling were too much for his delicate frame, and his brave spirit took its flight two days after reaching El Paso—February 10, 1910. His body was brought to his old home and buried beside that of his wife in Grove Cemetery. Mrs. Beckman, who was Miss Jennie Coe, was married to him in October, 1887, and died in Kenton, February 28, 1889. Nearly fifty years William Beckman lived and worked in Kenton, a short life after all, but he left an enduring monument in the papers which he founded and the memory of a life well spent.

Ira N. Kelly is numbered among the successful and progressive agriculturists of Washington township, and he is also a member of a family who were among the earliest pioneers of Ohio, his great-grandfather on the paternal side, Joseph Kelly, having come to this state from Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in 1795. Andrew S. Kelly, the father of Ira, born in Pickaway county, Ohio, moved to Hancock county of this state in 1853 and to Hardin county in 1872. He served his country three years as a Civil war soldier, as a private with Company F, Ohio Volunteer Infantry and with Sherman on his celebrated march to the sea. He served faithfully and well as a soldier, and after his honorable discharge at the close of the war he returned to peaceful citizenship and to the work of the farm. His death occurred in the year of 1907, and his wife passed away in 1891. She was in her maidenhood Susannah Yates, and was born in Hancock county, Ohio, in 1836. Nine children were born of their marriage union, namely: George E., superintendent of schools at Krydersville, Ohio; Estella, Mrs. Patterson; Sadie, Mrs. Kenode; William H. and Samuel M., both druggists in Wellston, this state; Joseph A., of Ada; Mark B., a cigar dealer at that place; and June, deceased, and one who died in infancy.

Ira N. Kelly, one of the sons in the above family and now one of the representative farmers of Washington township, has since 1901 owned a splendidly improved estate of seventy-six acres but which in January, 1910, he sold and bought in Trumbull county. He was born in Hancock county, Ohio, in 1857, but he was reared and educated in the city of Ada, attending the university there, but previously he had taught school. He continued his educational labors after leaving the university, teaching for twenty years in Hardin county. In 1890 he was made the deputy recorder for Hardin county, serving in that office until 1893, and in 1900 he was appointed to that office and served for one and a half years. He has also filled various township positions, was formerly a justice of the peace and has also been a township clerk. His name is thus prominently recorded on the pages of the history of Hardin county, and he has proved a true and valued citizen.

In 1879 Mr. Kelly was married to Miss Margaret E., a daughter of Samuel and Rachel Carey, and although their marriage union has been without issue they have an adopted son and daughter, the former being Carl F. Carey and the latter Fredea Willike. Mrs. Kelly was born in Liberty township of Hardin county in 1861. Both she and her husband

are members of the Methodist Protestant church, active in its work and upbuilding, and Mr. Kelly has served his religious home as a class leader, trustee and as a Sunday school superintendent. He is also prominently identified with the fraternal order of Odd Fellows at Dunkirk, both he and his wife being also connected with its auxiliary, the Rebekahs, and Mr. Kelly is a past noble grand of the order.

Alonzo Lynch, a retired business man now living in Kenton, Ohio, was until a few years ago extensively interested in buying and selling stock. Mr. Lynch was born in Coshocton county, Ohio, July 4, 1828, a son of George and Hannah (Brown) Lynch, the former a native of Pennsylvania. George Lynch moved from Pennsylvania and located at Zanesville, Ohio, bringing with him the first furnace ever brought to that part of the state. In the spring of 1833 he and his wife settled in Blanchard township, Hardin county, where they purchased eighty acres of land in the timber. Mr. Lynch began clearing his land and erected a small log hut for the family to live in. He was an industrious and enterprising farmer and met with fair success, meeting and overcoming the obstacles incident to pioneer life at that time.

The childhood of Alonzo Lynch was spent on his father's farm, and when he grew old enough he helped with the work of carrying on the farm. He engaged in the stock business as a young man and during the war he bought horses for the government. Later he engaged in contract work for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, building culverts and bridges. He was a good workman and became well informed in construction work. He also took contracts for building pike roads in Hardin and Hancock counties, building the first pike in the latter county. He has probably built more of these roads than any one else in Hardin county, and was well known for the superior quality of work he accomplished. As a boy he carried United States mail two times a week from Bellefontaine to Findlay, making the trip on horseback. He became a prominent and well known citizen, and stood well in the community.

In March, 1853, Alonzo Lynch married Charlotte Rush, daughter of Job and Ruth (Williams) Rush, who came to Hardin county from Uniontown, Pennsylvania, about 1850. Mr. Lynch inherited the old homestead, which comprised two hundred acres and he lived until 1881 near Dunkirk, owning several different farms during those years of his active life. He then rented his farm and moved to Kenton, where he embarked in the livery business on the south side of the square. Here he conducted his business a number of years, then rented it, and in 1894 sold his interest. However, he still continued in the stock business, and being an excellent judge of horses, he bought a good many thoroughbreds and shipped from Kentucky, building up a good business in this line. He also purchased a large number of shorthorn cattle each year and disposed of them in Hardin county and other parts of the state. He did a great deal to introduce pure blood stock into the county, and in this did a good service to farmers and stockmen. About four years ago Mr. Lynch retired from business and sold his farm. He is a stanch

Republican and has always taken an active interest in public affairs. He and his wife became the parents of seven children, of whom six survive. Mrs. Lynch died in 1896, at the age of sixty-one years. Both she and her husband made many friends and became highly respected and esteemed. Mr. Lynch earned his success in life through his own efforts and ambition, taking advantage of every opportunity offered him for business success and advancement, and has well earned the rest he now enjoys.

THOMAS ESPY.—The late Thomas Espy was one of the most prominent and influential citizens of Hardin county, and was interested in many enterprises. Mr. Espy was born in New Darlington, Beaver county, Pennsylvania, May 12, 1837, and was a son of John and Jane (Anderson) Espy, both also natives of Pennsylvania. The progenitor of the Espy family in America emigrated from the north of Ireland in colonial days.

John Espy moved to Hardin county, Ohio, in 1838, when his son Thomas was but one year old. In 1840 he located in Kenton, and three years later erected the first steam flouring mill in the town, on the present site of the T. & O. C. railroad depot. He became one of the leading citizens and was a successful business man. Mr. Espy died in 1878; his widow survived him many years and passed away in 1907.

Thomas Espy received his early education in Kenton schools, and in 1856 took a commercial course at Northwood, Ohio, and in 1861 entered the Cincinnati Law School and was afterwards admitted to the bar. However, he did not enter upon the practice of his profession, preferring a commercial career, for which he considered he was better fitted. In 1864 he began working with his father in the mill and in 1866, with William Ochs, built the present White flour mill, becoming president of the concern. In 1855 Mr. Espy was appointed deputy county treasurer, under Dr. U. P. Leighton, and assisted in taking the first tax ever collected at the present courthouse. In 1874 he became interested in the Paullucci Bank, and two years later became cashier of the Hardin County Savings Bank. In 1878, at the organizing of the First National Bank, Mr. Espy became a director.

Mr. Espy was one of the promoters of the Erie Railroad, and in 1868 became one of the promoters of a railroad to run from Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, to Huntington, Indiana, and to pass through Kenton, and when the road was completed he became one of the directors. He was connected with the road until it was purchased by the Erie system. He and General James Robinson built the connecting link between Marion and Kenton. Mr. Espy was also one of the promoters of the Kenton Gas & Electric Company, being its first president and actively connected with it until a few years since. He also became one of the pike commissioners, under whom the first pike in the county was constructed. He was also one of the promoters of the first water works system. For over twenty years he served as treasurer of Buck township. In 1902 Mr. Espy became identified with the Gas & Electric Company of Toledo, and became general manager of the same; they have plants at Tiffin, Delphos

and New Bremen. In 1858 he became a member of the Masonic Order, and he helped build the Epworth Methodist Episcopal church in South Kenton, being a trustee of the organization. He always voted the Democratic ticket and took an active interest in public affairs.

In 1870 Mr. Espy married Miss Sallie Johnson, who was then a teacher in the public schools of Kenton, a daughter of David E. and Jane (Pancake) Johnson, the former born at Chester, Butler county, near Cincinnati, and the latter in the village of Cross Roads, in Madison county, Ohio. Mr. Johnson was a descendant of Sir Peter Johnson, of colonial times. Mr. Johnson was married in September, 1846, in Madison county, and in 1861, the day Fort Sumter was fired upon, he and his wife settled about two and a half miles from the town of Kenton, where they lived a number of years and then located in the town, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. Johnson died on November 11, 1900. His wife, who was born July 25, 1827, died on April 3, 1907, and with her death the family of Joseph and Jane Pancake, her parents, became extinct. Mr. Pancake was a participant in the war of 1812. His wife was a daughter of William and Martha Wilson, who kept the White Horse tavern near Philadelphia, at Catamisa, where General Washington stopped several times. Mr. Pancake was born December 19, 1789, in Romney, Virginia, a son of John Pancake, a slave-owner, and he died September 14, 1853; his wife died July 30, 1864.

Thomas Espy and his wife became the parents of three children, namely: Miss Anna, a teacher at Chicopee Falls, Massachusetts; Frank, of Tiffin; and Jesse, of Kenton. Mr. Espy was one of the enterprising and public-spirited citizens of Hardin county, and contributed a large share towards the progress and development of the town of Kenton, as well as many other parts of the state. He became interested in a large number of enterprises, and his keen business judgment and intelligence were widely appreciated. He was well informed on many topics and was one of the best known and most highly esteemed men who ever lived in Kenton. He had a large circle of friends and his memory is cherished in the hearts of many. He was always ready to lend his support to worthy causes, and was a charitable, kindly-disposed member of society. His success in life was attained through his own efforts and ambition, and he spent a busy, useful life, whose deeds will not soon be forgotten.

Joseph Eberhart is prominently numbered among the agriculturists of Washington township, Hardin county. He is a representative of a prominent old German family who formerly wrote the name "Eberhardt," and he is a descendant of the crown heads of the Fatherland. The ancestry of this illustrious family is traced back to the year 1445 and to the Dukes of Wurtemberg, and in the United States their history goes back to 1727, when Peter and Michael crossed on the old "Friendship," John Davis master. Landing in Philadelphia on October 16, 1727, they located in Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, and they formed the beginning of a large settlement of their countrymen there. George and Elizabeth (Hull) Eberhart, the parents of Joseph and Sarah Ann,

were born in Stark county, Ohio, and but two of their eleven children are now living, and Joseph is the only one in Hardin county.

He was born in Stark county, Ohio, September 24, 1836, and was reared and educated there and also learned the carpenter's trade, a vocation which he has followed more or less throughout his business career. Moving to Hancock county in 1863 he bought a farm of one hundred and five acres, and in 1866 came from there to Hardin county. Here he owns one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land in Washington township, which he purchased the year of his arrival here, but at that time there was only twenty acres of the place cleared. Since then he has made vast improvements in land and buildings, his land being all under a fine state of cultivation, his home a substantial and commodious structure, and at this writing he is erecting his third barn, the first having been burned in 1893, while the second was struck by lightning in June of 1909 and also burned, the first structure having been insured for nine hundred dollars and the second for twelve hundred. Mr. Eberhart is a practical farmer and has a most desirable home.

He married Rebecca A. Kamp in 1858, and seven children have been born to them, namely: Alice, deceased; Sidney, Clement, Alexander, Clarence, May and Charles L. They also have eighteen grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Mrs. Eberhart was born in Stark county, Ohio, October 17, 1839, a daughter of Jacob and Sarah Kamp, the former from England and the latter from Pennsylvania. Their children were twelve in number, but only three are now living, and Mrs. Eberhart is the only one living in Hardin county. The Eberhart family are representative citizens of Hardin county.

Parlee C. Robinson, of the firm of Robinson & Gage, dealers in lumber, coal, etc., Kenton, Ohio, is one of the enterprising business men of the town and is well known throughout the county.

Mr. Robinson was born in Kenton, September 15, 1859, youngest of the three children of James S. Robinson, a prominent citizen of Ohio, who filled the office of state secretary from 1886 to 1890, and who early in life came to Hardin county and took up his residence at Kenton. He was a native of Richland county, this state. Parlee C. in his youth had the advantage of a good education. He took a four years' course in the Ohio State University, where he made a specialty of engineering, afterward taking up civil engineering as a business and spending several years in railroad work. For three years he was employed in this capacity on what is now the Chicago & Erie, and subsequently was assistant chief engineer for the construction of the Ohio Central Railroad and the Kanawha & Michigan, this latter being now a part of the Hocking Valley Railroad. About this time his father having been elected to the office of state secretary, young Robinson went to Columbus and served as deputy in that office, remaining there during the whole of his father's term. In 1897 the firm of Robinson & Gage was formed, and has since operated a planing mill and dealt in lumber, coal, etc., and to this business Mr. Robinson has given his personal attention. Also he has other interests in the county, including bank stock and farm

property. He is one of the directors of the First National Bank of Ada.

Fraternally he is identified with both the Masons and the Elks, being especially active and influential in the latter organization.

T. J. Dickinson.—One of the successful and prominent farmers of Hardin county, Ohio, who has spent all his life in this occupation is T. J. Dickinson, who is well known throughout most of the county. Mr. Dickinson was born in Andrew county, Missouri, in 1845, and is a son of Nelson and Mary A. (Corwin) Dickinson, both natives of Logan county, Ohio, who were married in 1838. In 1842 Nelson Dickinson and his wife moved to Andrew county, Missouri, where they spent about eight years and then returned to Logan county. In 1860 they removed to Hardin county, settling north of Ridgeway, where Mr. Dickinson purchased a farm of eight hundred and seventy-five acres, paying twenty-seven dollars an acre for the land, with the machinery and stock included. They lived here about eight years and then returned to Logan county, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. Dickinson died at the age of seventy-nine years and his wife died in 1894, aged seventy-four years. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom all survive save one son, George, who died in January, 1910, at the age of sixty-nine years.

T. J. Dickinson has always followed farming and stock raising, and has also bought and shipped stock extensively, being the oldest stockman in Hardin county. Some five years since he rented his farm and purchased a handsome residence on West Carroll Street in Kenton, and two years later he sold his one hundred and sixty-five acre farm. However, he has continued to buy and ship stock, and some two years since purchased a three hundred and twenty acre rice farm in Matagorda county, Texas. He rents this farm and has raised one crop on it, from which he reaped a very handsome profit. He was also interested in one of the local banks of Hardin county, but has since sold his interest. He is one of the enterprising, representative men of Kenton, and is recognized as a man of sound judgment and good business principles. He takes an active interest in public affairs and is a Republican in political views. He served one term as county commissioner, and at the expiration of this term was appointed to fill a vacancy.

In 1867 Mr. Dickinson married Caroline Bird, of Union county, Ohio, daughter of Gorum and Arsidola (Scott) Bird, the former a native of New York state and the latter of Ohio. After their marriage Mr. Bird and his wife moved to Union county, in 1834, where they lived the remainder of their lives. Mr. Dickinson and his wife became the parents of six children, namely: Arsodillo, deceased; Wilson E., now living in the state of Washington; Emma, now the wife of W. T. Eaton; Delpho, the wife of Harry Tittsworth; the fifth child died unnamed; and Bertha, now the wife of William McElheny. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal church.

Adam Brown.—Among the most extensive farmers of McDonald township, Hardin county, Ohio, is Adam Brown, who owns a fine farm of

two hundred and fourteen acres, where he carried on general farming and has met with excellent success. Mr. Brown is one of the influential, representative citizens of the county, is well known and universally esteemed. He was born in Union county, Ohio, October 13, 1858, a son of Josiah M. and Margaret Jane (Basil) Brown, the former born on Big Darby in Unionville, Ohio, August 25, 1835, and the latter born in Lincoln county, September 12, 1833. Josiah M. Brown was a soldier in the Civil war, enlisting in the One Hundred and Twenty-first Ohio, in 1861, as private. He served as private throughout the war and was mustered out in 1865. He and his wife moved to Hardin county immediately after the close of his service, July 4, 1865, locating in Taylor Creek township, where he purchased forty-eight acres. Three years later he removed to Hickory Grove. He died on May 6, 1882, and his widow died on March 3, 1893. They were married January 10, 1856, and to them were born nine children, including George A., Hester Jane, William, Charles, Aaron, Samuel and Mary Lizzie. George A. was born September 28, 1861, and died March 30, 1874, being killed by a falling tree at the age of thirteen years, six months and twelve days. Hester J. was born January 8, 1866, and died June 15, 1909. Charles was born December 28, 1870, and resides in Zanesfield. Aaron, born November 27, 1872, lives in Taylor Creek. Samuel, born April 20, 1875, died in infancy. Mary L., born June 3, 1876, lives in Taylor Creek township.

The boyhood of Adam Brown was spent in Taylor Creek, and he attended the district school of his neighborhood. He afterward took up the trade of carpenter, beginning to work at the same in 1881, and he followed the trade twenty-seven years in connection with farming. Politically he is a Democrat, and he never aspired to public office, though he takes an active interest in public affairs.

On June 21, 1881, Mr. Brown married Tabitha C. Kissling, daughter of Hiram Kissling, who resides in Hardin county, and his wife, Mary Ann (Spencer) Kissling, deceased. Mrs. Brown is one of seven children namely: John, Mary, William, Alta J., Nettie M., and Gertrude (oldest of the family and half-sister to the others). To Mr. and Mrs. Brown fourteen children have been born, as follows: Floyd H., born September 14, 1882, married Eva Arbogast, and they reside in Logan county; Grover C. of McDonald township, born September 9, 1884, married Carrie Fleece, and they have one child, Albert J.; Frank K., born December 12, 1886, is unmarried and lives at home, where he assists in the duties of the farm; Alta J., born March 1, 1888, married Chester Deardorff, who was killed at Bellefontaine July 9, 1909, by a street car, leaving one child, Herbert; Carrie M., born May 19, 1889, unmarried and living at home; Blanch, born March 26, 1891, living at home; Emma V., born July 5, 1892; Mary L., born October 25, 1893; Opal C., born December 26, 1894; William J., born March 18, 1897; Mattie C., born September 20, 1898; Golda, born June 3, 1900, died November 26, 1900, aged five months and twenty-three days; Ruth, born October 23, 1901; and Edgar E., born January 21, 1904.

Mr. Brown first purchased forty acres in Union county, which he

owned and conducted for ten years, then traded it for ninety-three acres in Logan county, which he owned four years, then traded it for his present farm in Hardin county.

Professor Charles B. Wright.—Talented and cultured, and the possessor of much business and executive ability, Professor Charles B. Wright, corresponding secretary of the Ohio Northern University, has been connected with the educational institution for a score of years, and is numbered among the more prominent and influential citizens of Ada. A native of Ohio, he was born, June 1, 1866, in Licking county, near Johnstown, coming from honored New England ancestry. He remained on the home farm until seventeen years of age. He afterwards attended school two years, and then, until 1888, taught in the public schools of his native county. Going then to Bucyrus, Mr. Wright attended Baldwin Academy a year, taking a special course in bookkeeping and commercial studies. Taking up his residence in Ada on August 13, 1889, Mr. Wright entered the Ohio Northern University, where he continued his studies two years. In 1891 he entered the commercial department of the university as an instructor, and in 1904 was made corresponding secretary of the institution, a position which he has since filled most ably and acceptably, in the meantime having also charge of all the advertising connected with the university.

Professor Wright has been twice married. He married first, December 25, 1895, Ione Dukes, a daughter of Eli Dukes, and a niece of the donor of Dukes' Building. She died in 1903, leaving two children, Robert and Helen. The Professor married for his second wife, in 1905, Gladys Cartwright, and they have one daughter, Ethelind. A Republican in politics, Professor Wright is a member of the board of education of Ada, of which he has been president four years. Fraternally he is one of the more prominent and active members of Richie Lodge, No. 241, K. of P., which he represented as a delegate in the Grand Lodge for six years, for five years serving as chairman of the mileage and per diem committee. Religiously he is a consistent and valued member of the Methodist Episcopal church. The Professor has accumulated a good property, owning a fine home in Ada and a farm of two hundred acres near McComb, Hancock county.

Darlington B. Nourse, of the firm of Nourse & Caine, dry goods merchants of Kenton, Ohio, was born in Fairfield county, this state, February 11, 1858. The Nourses were Maryland people. Charles Nourse and John D. Nourse, grandfather and father respectively of Darlington B. came from Sharpsburg, Maryland, to Ohio when the latter was a youth of twelve years, and settled at Rushville in Fairfield county. There he grew to manhood, and married Miss Catherine Berry, a native of New Salem, that county. By profession he was a physician and surgeon, and was in active practice for nearly fifty years, up to the time of his death, which occurred at the age of seventy years. His wife also lived to be seventy. They were the parents of four children, two of whom reached maturity and are still living, the subject of this sketch and John H., a traveling salesman, of Lancaster, Ohio.

George E. Crane.

Darlington B. Nourse was reared in Reynoldsburg, Ohio, receiving his education in the academy of that place. At the age of twenty he began life as a clerk in the dry goods store of A. Stutson, of Lancaster, and remained with him about five years; afterward, for eleven years, was with Green Joyce & Company, of Columbus, Ohio, one year as house salesman and ten years on the road. In 1893 he bought an interest with H. E. Becker & Company, dry goods dealers of Lancaster, and was there until 1901. That year he sold out and in August came to Kenton. Here, in partnership with Mr. J. W. Caine, he bought out H. C. Koller's dry goods store, and under the firm name of Nourse & Caine has continued to do a prosperous business. Since taking up his residence in Kenton he has shown himself to be a public spirited man and has identified himself with various interests, including the Home Telephone Company, of which he is a stockholder and director.

In 1887 Mr. Nourse married Miss Margaret Pickering, a native of Lancaster, Ohio, and a daughter of Samuel and Susan (Osenbaugh) Pickering. They have three children, Catherine, John D. and Joseph C. Mr. Nourse is an active member and trustee of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Kenton.

George E. Crane.—As one of the representative members of the bar of the historic state of Ohio Mr. Crane is well entitled to recognition in this publication, and further consistency in according such consideration is that implied in the fact that he is a scion of one of the old and honored pioneer families of the state of Ohio, though he himself is a native of New York City, where he was born on September 9, 1858. He has been engaged in the practice of his profession at Kenton, the attractive judicial center and metropolis of Hardin county, for a quarter of a century, and is known as an able and versatile member of the bar of Ohio.

George E. Crane is a son of Samuel Ingham Crane and Sophia Charlotte (Buck) Crane, the former of whom was born at Florence, Erie county, Ohio, on the 20th of December, 1832, and the latter of whom was born in New York City on the 26th of April, 1854. The founder of the Crane family in Ohio was Joel Crane, great-grandfather of him whose name initiates this article. This worthy ancestor and pioneer came from Southbury, Connecticut, and settled in Erie county, Ohio, in 1817. He was a direct descendant of Jasper Crane, of New Haven, Connecticut, some of whose descendants had settled at Newark, New Jersey, whence Joel Crane moved to Southbury, Connecticut, where, in 1804, was solemnized his marriage to Miss Olive Mitchell, granddaughter of Eleazar Mitchell, who was a member of the committee of safety during the war of the Revolution and who had commanded a militia company at Fort Ticonderoga in the French and Indian war. In the Revolutionary war he held a captain's commission and served under General Washington. Eleazar Mitchell was of the fifth generation in line of direct descent from Matthew Mitchell, who was born at Halifax, Yorkshire, England, in 1590, and who came to America and settled in Boston in 1635, and whose son, Rev. Jonathan Mitchell, was the third minister at

Cambridge, Masachusetts, 1649-1677, having been graduated in Harvard College in 1647.

George E. Crane passed his boyhood and youth in New York, New Jersey and Norwalk, Ohio, where he received his preliminary educational discipline in the public schools. Thereafter he continued his studies in Oberlin College, in which institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1877, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. After his graduation Mr. Crane turned his attention to the pedagogic profession, and it is a matter of record that he gave most effective service in the educational field, having been principal of the high school at Kenton, his present home, from 1878 to 1885, and having in the meanwhile taken up the study of law under effective preceptorship. He was admitted to the bar in 1885, and has been continuously engaged in the practice of his profession at Kenton since that year. In 1879 and 1881 he made extended foreign tours, and in 1899 he again traveled abroad, for rest, recreation and pleasure. He is an able trial lawyer, having been identified with many important litigations in the state and federal courts, and is, through his broad and comprehensive knowledge of jurisprudence, especially well fortified as a counselor. In 1898 he was appointed referee in bankruptcy, of which office he has since continued incumbent, and he is also a member of the board of education of Kenton, having held this position since 1897. In politics he is a stalwart advocate of the principles of the Republican party, in whose cause he has given active service, and he was the candidate of his party for the office of judge of the circuit court in 1898, as well as in 1908, being defeated on each occasion through normal political exigencies. Mr. Crane is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained the chivalric degrees, indicated by his membership in the commandery and Knights Templars, and he is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Both he and his wife are zealous members of the First Presbyterian church of Kenton.

On the 12th of June, 1889, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Crane to Miss Kate Rachel Rhodes, daughter of Oregon E. and Xiria C. (Ensign) Rhodes, of Kenton. Mr. and Mrs. Crane have three children, concerning whom the following brief record is given: Esther, who was born in Kenton, Ohio, March 10, 1890, was graduated in the Kenton high school in 1905, was a student in Oberlin College in 1906-7 and was graduated in Smith College as a member of the class of 1910; Herbert Ingham Crane, who was born in Kenton on the 4th of May, 1892, was graduated in the local high school in 1908, after which he passed about one year in historic old Phillips Exeter Academy; Katharine Elizabeth, who was born at Kenton, January 15, 1895, was graduated in the Kenton high school as a member of the class of 1910. The family is one of distinctive prominence and popularity in the social life of the community, and the attractive home is a center of gracious hospitality.

Professor Frederick Maglott.—Among the most efficient, accomplished and valued instructors of the Ohio Northern University at Ada, are Professor Frederick Maglott, A. B. and A. M., and his wife, Mrs. Eva

(Sisson) Maglott, A. M. and C. E., the former being professor of history and geography, and the latter the instructor in higher mathematics and trigonometry.

Professor Frederick Maglott, a son of Jacob Maglott, was born, December 12, 1851, in Richland county, Ohio, of German ancestry. A native of Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, Jacob Maglott lived there until nineteen years old, when he came with his parents, Philip and Elizabeth Maglott, to Richland county, Ohio, where he assisted his father in improving a homestead. After his marriage Jacob Maglott located on land in Washington township, Richland county, and there cleared and improved a good farm. He married Catherine Detwiler, who was born in Pennsylvania, and at the age of four years came with her parents, John and Anna Detwiler, to Richland county, Ohio, where she grew to womanhood. Nine children were born of their union, Frederick, the subject of this sketch, being the eldest child.

Brought up on the home farm, Frederick Maglott acquired his rudimentary education in the public schools, and after his graduation from the Belleville High School taught school for three terms in the rural districts of Richland county. He subsequently attended Otterbein University, in Westerville, Ohio, for a time, coming from there to Ada in 1874. After his graduation from the Ohio Northern University Professor Maglott returned to Westerville and completed his studies at the Otterbein University. In 1876 the Professor began teaching at the Ohio Northern University, with which he has since been connected, having taught in every department of the institution. In 1878 he received the degree of A. B. and two years later of A. M. He was for many years a stockholder of the institution, retaining his financial interest in the institution until it was sold to the Methodist Episcopal denomination Professor Maglott is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church being president of its board of trustees, and for many years was superintendent of its Sunday school.

Professor Maglott married, July 28, 1880, Eva Sisson, who was born and brought up in Arkansas, her birth occurring in 1860. She attended Butler College one year, and in 1876 entered the Ohio Northern University at Ada, and immediately after her graduation in 1877 accepted a position on its staff of instructors, and has been since, a period of thirty-two years, one of its faculty. The Professor and Mrs. Maglott have become the parents of three children, namely: George Frederick, who was graduated from the Ohio Northern University, is now taking a post graduate course in Boston, Massachusetts; Mignon, deceased; and Donald Sisson, attending the Ohio Northern University.

Mrs. Maglott has won two degrees, that of A. M. and of C. E. She is highly educated, and for two years taught Latin and two years held the chair on science and literature. She has held the position of Professor of Mathematics for over twenty years, and is now writing two text books for use in her teaching. She is very active in social circles and prominent in club life, belonging to the Daughters of the American Revolution at Kenton; to the American Association for the Advancement of Science; to the American Mathematical Society; and is a Fellow of the National Geographical Society.

George A. Oglesbee is one of the substantial and honored residents of Lynn township. He was born in Logan county, Ohio, December 10, 1846, a son of Isaiah and Sarah (Quick) Oglesbee, born respectively in Greene county, Ohio, and in New Jersey. They were married in Logan county, Ohio, and came from there to Hardin county, where they lived in Hale township for many years, but Isaiah Oglesbee died in Logan county.

George A. Oglesbee was the first born of their children, and he was reared on the parental farm and received his educational training in the district schools. During the opening period of the trouble between the north and the south he enlisted for service in Company D of the Forty-fifth Regiment, and participated in the hard-fought battles of Nashville, Resaca and Columbia and started on the Georgia campaign, but only went as far as Rome when he became ill and was sent to the hospital. He received his discharge on the 3d of October, 1865, and he now draws a pension of twelve dollars a month from the government in compensation for his army services. Since his marriage in 1868 Mr. Oglesbee has lived in Hardin county. For many years he was a head sawyer in a mill, and he own forty-four acres of land at the edge of West Foraker, where he resides and where he is quite extensively engaged in the raising of onions. He gives his political support to the Republican party.

Mrs. Oglesbee was before her marriage Miss Serena Poling, and was born in Allen township, Union county, Ohio, December 10, 1850, a daughter of Solomon and Lucinda (Frank) Poling. Lucinda Poling now lives with her daughter, Mrs. Oglesbee, having reached the age of eighty-nine years. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Oglesbee, which occurred on the 10th of December, 1868, has been blessed by the birth of six children: Sarah L., born April 13, 1870; Walter, born February 16, 1872; Minnie M., born April 10, 1874; Ray E., born July 14, 1876; Jesse, born August 30, 1881; and Earl D., born December 30, 1887. Mrs. Oglesbee is a member of the Baptist church at Foraker.

John A. Ewing, one of the prominent characters who have been identified with the history of Hardin county is found in the personal of John A. Ewing, at one time a member of the board of commissioners of his county. He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, November 22, 1857, a son of John S. and Letitia V. (McElhaney) Ewing, the father also born in Lancaster county and the mother in the adjoining county of Chester. She yet survives her husband, and is living in the city of Philadelphia. The founder of the Ewing family in America was the great-grandfather of John A. Ewing, James Ewing, who came from his native Scotland and located in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, where members of this family afterward lived and died and which became the birthplace of John A. Ewing.

But at the age of eighteen John A. Ewing came to Ohio and located in Union county, remaining for two years, and in the meantime working by the month in that and Madison counties. In 1878 he came to Hardin county, this being before his marriage, and locating at

Ridgeway in Hale township he engaged in the grocery business and remained there for three and a half years. In 1882 he located in Kenton, where for seventeen years he was engaged in the cigar, liquor and billiard business, and although so long identified with the vocation he does not use tobacco in any form. He married on the 19th of April, 1882, Mary A. Culbertson, from Ridgeway, Ohio, but a native daughter of Logan county. She was reared in Hardin county, and before her marriage she taught music. Seven children blessed their marriage union, namely: William C., a Lynn township farmer; Gertrude, the wife of Clyde Long, of Kenton; and Frank, Jesse G., Helen I., John W. and Francis, at home with their father. Mrs. Ewing was called from this life on the 12th of January, 1899.

In politics Mr. Ewing affiliates with the Republican party, and in November of 1898 he was elected one of the three commissioners of Hardin county, and by his re-election to that office in 1901 he continued his services until September of 1905. He was his party's nominee for auditor in 1908, but met defeat with the remainder of the ticket. He is a stockholder in the Commercial Bank at Kenton, and he is the owner of eight hundred and fifty-six acres of land lying in Lynn, Hale and Dudley townships. He also deals quite heavily in stock, being both a raiser and shipper. Mr. Ewing started on life's journey for himself empty handed, and his splendid estate represents years of indefatigable effort and purposes well directed.

Sanfred H. Dulin.—During many years Sanfred H. Dulin has been an honored resident of Hardin county, one of its representative farmers and business men. He was born in Delaware county, Ohio, April 14, 1847, a son of Edward and Sarah (Diltz) Dulin. His grandfather on the paternal side was a native son of Ireland who came to the United States when a young man and located in Virginia, where he married. He later emigrated to Delaware county, Ohio, and he spent the remainder of his life there.

Edward Dulin was born at the family home in Virginia, April 28, 1802. He was married before coming to Delaware county, Ohio, and among the children born to him there was his son Sanfred, who grew up as a farmer lad, receiving in the meantime a district school education. In the year of 1868 he came to Hardin county, and his first purchase of land here was a tract of eighty acres which he bought from his father. He now owns a splendid estate of two hundred and eigthy-five acres, all lying within the boundaries of Lynn township, but the active work of this farm is carried on by his son. Mr. Dulin was married on the 1st of December, 1872, to Mary J. Emfield, who was born in Franklin county, Ohio, February 23, 1856, a daughter of Humphrey and Mary Emfield, who came with their family to Hardin county in 1863 and located on a farm in Lynn township, so that Mrs. Dulin has lived in this county during the greater part of her life. The following children have blessed their marriage union: David Milton, who was born January 2, 1874, and married Mamie Henderson of Logan county; Eldora V., born October 1, 1875, and now the wife of Harry Tarlton, of Toledo; Henry

E., born September 15, 1878, married Katie Oswell of Bellefontaine and is living in Lima, Ohio; Jesse W., born December 7, 1880, is at home with his parents; Sanfred A., Jr. born September 5, 1883, married Mary Gangh; Ludwell G., born May 24, 1887, is deceased; Sylvester E., born September 19, 1888, is also at home with his parents; Maude A., born July 2, 1893, is the wife of Raymond Ruffner; Charles Roscoe, born August 19, 1894, is also deceased; and Neva O., born May 3, 1896, is at home with her parents. Mrs. Dulin is a member of the Lynn Valley Methodist Episcopal church, and is an active and efficient church worker. Mr. Dulin exercises his right of franchise with the Republican party, and is quite active in local political circles.

James Ray Stillings.—Thoroughly conversant with the intricacies and delicate points of law, James Ray Stillings, of Kenton, is filling the honorable position of prosecuting attorney with credit and dignity, discharging the duties devolving upon him with marked ability. Coming from pioneer stock, he was born, August 20, 1867, in Kenton, a son of the late John Stillings.

John Stillings was born, reared and educated in Union county, Ohio. A man of scholarly attainments, he entered the legal profession when a young man, and began the practice of law in Kenton. He met with much success, winning an extensive clientele during the forty-nine years of his practice in this city, and at one time served as prosecuting attorney. He died, in 1904, at the age of seventy-three years, his death being a loss to the community in which he had so long resided. He belonged to the Presbyterian church, and was a prominent member of the Masonic order. As a public-spirited, intelligent citizen, he took great interest in local affairs, and for about fifteen years served on the Kenton school board. He married first Jennie Cantwell, who bore him two children, a son that died in childhood and James Ray, the subject of this sketch. He subsequently married Marie Louise Stambaugh, who survives him.

Receiving his elementary education in Kenton, James Ray Stillings was graduated from the high school with the class of 1883, after which he attended the University of Wooster, at Wooster Ohio, for three years. When twenty years of age he began the study of law with his father, and in 1890 was admitted to the Ohio bar. Beginning his active career as a journalist, Mr. Stillings was connected with the Kenton Republican for about two years, after which he went west, spending a year in Kansas, working on different papers. Locating then in Topeka, Kansas, he continued his newspaper work for a time in that place, and subsequently found employment on the Rocky Mountain and San Francisco papers. Returning to Kenton, Mr. Stillings began the practice of law with his father, continuing the partnership until the death of his father, since which time he has carried on the work alone. Acquiring prominence in his profession, he was elected city solicitor of Kenton in 1905, re-elected in 1907 without opposition, and in 1908 was the people's choice for prosecuting attorney, both of which positions he filled for some months, resigning as city solicitor in April of 1909.

JOHN STILLINGS

A stanch Republican in politics, Mr. Stillings takes an active interest in party affairs, and gladly lends his aid and influence in promoting the welfare of city and county. He is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; and of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is an only son and has never married, but resides with his mother, having a pleasant and congenial home.

George W. Bryant, one of the representative farmers and highly respected citizens of Goshen township, Hardin county, Ohio, owns and occupies a fine farm of two hundred and twenty-four acres. Mr. Bryant was born at Fostoria, Ohio, January 22, 1852, a son of George W. and Isabelle (Kemp) Bryant, the former a native of New York state and the latter of Hancock county, Ohio. During the Civil war George W. Bryant, the father, first enlisted as a member of the Twenty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, for two years, at the end of which time he was honorably discharged. Then he reenlisted for three years or during the war, and as a member of the Fifty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry was in active duty until peace was declared. While awaiting his discharge at Louisville, Kentucky, he was stricken with smallpox and died. His widow still lives, and is now seventy-seven years of age. Of their four children two are living: Sarah J. and George W. Those deceased are William S. and one who died in infancy.

George W. Bryant, the subject of this sketch, was reared and educated at Findlay, Hancock county, Ohio, and remained there until 1876. From that year until 1888 he made his home in Marion county, and since 1888 he has been a resident of Hardin county, engaged in farming. From time to time he has been the recipient of official honors and has served efficiently in various local offices. For a number of years he was township supervisor, for nine years he was a justice of the peace, and ever since he came to the county he has been a member of the school board. He is a member of the Maple Grange, and religiously, he and his family are identified with the Presbyterian church.

On August 20, 1874, Mr. Bryant married Miss Ruth C. Terry, daughter of Champness and Rebecca Terry, and nine children have been born to them, namely: An infant, deceased; George E.; William C., deceased; Charles T.; Nellie; Carl H.; Mabel; John; and another infant which died in infancy.

Mrs. Bryant was born in Marion county, Ohio, August 27, 1855. Her father, Champness Terry, a native of Virginia, emigrated to Ohio in 1831 and settled in Marion county, where he bought five hundred acres of land, a portion of which extended into Hardin county. On this land he built a log cabin and in true pioneer style set about the work of clearing his farm, which he accomplished in due time. The Terrys are of English origin. Thomas Terry, the grandfather of Champness, was born in England; in early life he came to America and settled in Virginia and later was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. His son Thomas, Champness Terry's father, was a slaveholder in Virginia; religiously, he was a Quaker, and, espousing the Abolition cause, he moved to Ohio and

freed his slaves. Champness Terry was twice married. By his first wife, whose maiden name was Anne Thompson, he had six children, namely: Thomas J. (deceased), Joseph C., David D., John H., Sarah J. (deceased), and William P. (deceased). Three of the sons were veterans of the Civil war—James M., Luke A. and David D. The last named was killed in action. For his second wife he married Rebecca Peters, who bore him fourteen children, as follows: Mary A., James M., Luke A., George W., Ruth C., Elizabeth A., Zachariah, Catherine L., Hannah J., Magnolia, Mack C., Susan R., and two that died in infancy. The mother of these children died January 18, 1901, at the age of seventy-six years, and Champness Terry died January 13, 1887, at the age of eighty-six years. He was held in high respect by all who knew him. For eighteen successive years he filled the office of township supervisor, and for several terms he was school director. One of his sons by his first marriage, John H., has large mining interests in Colorado, where he resides, and where he has been honored by election first to the office of probate judge and later to the office of judge of common pleas.

George W. Moore, a prominent farmer and stockraiser of Marion township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born at Allen, this state, August 17, 1858, a son of Samuel and Margaret E. (Maus) Moore. Samuel Moore was a native of Ohio and reared his family here. One of his sons, Peter M., is a resident of Milwaukee, and another son, Alpheus, lives in Pennsylvania. His only daughter, Mary, is the wife of Nelson Carry.

George W. Moore spent his early boyhood at Westminster and later attended school in Lima. He remained a member of the home circle until he was twenty-one when, without means, he started out to make his own way in the world. Going to Fort Wayne, Indiana, he went to work as a carpenter in the car shops of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, where he remained a year. After this he was for a time with the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Company. Then he came to Hardin county, Ohio, and settled down to farm work, and has been a farmer ever since. In 1882 he bought thirty-five acres of his present farm, to which he has added by subsequent purchase, and is now the owner of three hundred and sixteen and a half acres, well improved with good buildings, etc. In 1892 he erected his house, and in 1899 his barn, the latter being thirty-six by sixty-two feet in dimensions, and while he carries on general farming he makes a specialty of raising and buying and selling hogs, cattle and horses. He buys cattle in Chicago, ships to his farm and fattens for market, annually selling about two car loads of cattle and from fourteen to sixteen hundred dollars worth of hogs. Also he has some fine Percheron horses which have attracted no little attention in this locality.

In 1883 Mr. Moore married Miss Maggie Goslee, a native of Hardin county, born June 15, 1865. She was a woman of refinement and possessed many excellent qualities of heart and mind. After fifteen years of happy married life she died on June 16, 1898, leaving two sons and five daughters, namely: Florence; Addie, wife of Merlin Ewing; Rettie,

wife of John Fred Underwood; Harry, George Lester, Maggie Fay and Ruth.

Mr. Moore and his family are members of the Pleasant Hill Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is a trustee. He has membership in the Maccabee Lodge at Alger, Ohio, and politically is a Republican.

SOLOMON H. COOK.—One of the most highly esteemed and influential citizens of Kenton, Ohio, is Solomon H. Cook, a native of Wyandot county, born August 8, 1845. Mr. Cook is a son of James B. and Hannah (Corwin) Cook, both natives of Washington county, Pennsylvania, the latter a niece of Governor Corwin. James B. Cook was born February 8, 1818, and his wife October 1, 1819, and they were married in Mansfield, Richland county, Ohio, December 18, 1839. They located in Wyandot county in 1844, and for several years carried on a farm. Although he purchased a farm he was a carpenter by trade and followed the same all his life, erecting many residences in his neighborhood. Mr. Cook died July 19, 1861, having been bitten by a mad dog seven years prior to his demise, which was the cause of his death. His widow died in March, 1902. They were the parents of four sons and five daughters of whom three sons and two daughters survive.

Solomon H. Cook spent his early days on his father's farm and received his education in the country schools. In 1861, at the age of sixteen years, he enlisted in Company D, Seventy-second Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, being mustered out December 20, 1863. He reenlisted on December 20, 1863, in the same company and regiment, in what was known as the Ohio Veteran Volunteer Infantry. He was captured and sent to Andersonville prison June 11, 1864, and on September 22d of the same year, with other prisoners, he was taken to Florence, South Carolina, where they remained until February 1, 1865. They were then taken to Wilmington, North Carolina, thence to Goldsboro, where they were paroled, put aboard a steamer on March 3d and arrived at Annapolis on March 8th. They were sent to Camp Chase, Ohio, and then returned to their homes, Mr. Cook arriving home July 2, 1865, in a very weak condition. After recovering his health he took up farming, remaining on his father's estate two years.

On October 24, 1867, Mr. Cook married Mary N. Kneisley, daughter of John and Susan A. (McLain) Kneisley, natives of Pennsylvania, the former born in 1825, and the latter, a native of Ohio, born in 1831; they were married in 1848. Mr. Kneisley came to Hardin county about 1846 and purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, cleared off the timber and improved his land. Later he added two hundred and eighty acres and at the time of his death had one of the finest farms in Hardin county. He died July 1, 1884, and his widow passed away October 3, 1897. They were the parents of ten children, seven sons and three daughters, of whom seven children still survive.

Mr. Cook rented land two years after his marriage and in the spring of 1870 built a house on forty acres of land in Dudley township, Hardin county. He cleared and improved this farm, getting it into a fine state

of cultivation and living there until April 1, 1907, when he sold his farm and bought a small place north of Kenton. About a year later Mr. Cook and his family moved to the town of Kenton, where he purchased a residence on Leighton street and retired from active life.

For the past fifty years Mr. Cook has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he also belongs to the Knights of Pythias at Hepburn and to the Grand Army of the Republic, being chaplain of Cantwell Post. He has always voted the Republican ticket and is prominent in public affairs. Mr. Cook served as trustee and township clerk when living in Dudley township, also as road supervisor. For six years he served as one of the directors of the county infirmary, being appointed one of a committee of seven to meet in Columbus to revise the poor laws, these being now in force. He is interested in every good cause and has always been very active in church work, serving as lay delegate to the state conference several times, and for forty years he led in the church choir of Pisgah and Hepburn Methodist Episcopal churches. At present Mr. Cook is census enumerator of the second ward of Kenton.

Mr. Cook and his wife were the parents of ten children, of whom seven survive. They are: William G., born April 3, 1869; Jessie K., born February 12, 1871, died April 24, 1871; John J., born March 3, 1872; Lizzie D., born July 22, 1875; Cora E., born May 18, 1877, died August 31, 1878; Harvey McLain, born January 31, 1879; Mary M., born July 17, 1881; Felicia, born January 3, 1884, died January 7, 1885; Roy B., born September 30, 1885; and Solomon C., born December 27, 1889. Mr. Cook is well known in Kenton, and is held in the highest esteem by all who know him.

John Laughlin Clark.—During the greater part of his life John L. Clark has been identified with Hardin county and its interests, for many years one of its well known agriculturists, but he is now living retired in Kenton. He was born in Logan county of this state, near the town of Belle Center, on the 16th of October, 1835, a member of a family which was established in this country by Thomas B. Clark, a Scotchman. On coming from his native Scotland to the United States this Thomas B. Clark settled in Beaver county, Pennsylvania. He was a Presbyterian minister, and he organized churches and Sunday schools throughout northwestern Ohio, and he located in Guernsey county of this state in 1811. His wife, Nancy, was also from Scotland, and her first home in this country was in Erie county, Pennsylvania.

Alvin Clark, a son of Thomas B. and Nancy Clark, was born in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, March 5, 1809. He received a college education, and chose farming for his life's work. During the war between the north and the south he served in Company D, Sixty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, but he was discharged in October of 1862 on account of disability, and from troubles contracted in his war service he died on the 10th of August, 1878. He was a stanch supporter of Republican principles, and a true and earnest Presbyterian he served for several years before his death as an elder in the First Presbyterian church at

Belle Center and as a teacher in its Sunday school. In 1834 Mr. Clark married Mary Laughlin, who was born in Erie county, Pennsylvania, March 3, 1809. In 1811 she moved with her parents from her native county of Erie to Guernsey county, Ohio, and with her husband in the fall of 1834 she moved to Logan county. She died on the 18th of September, 1881.

John L. Clark attended the academy at Washington, Guernsey county, and during the ten years after leaving school he was engaged in buying and shipping stock. In October of 1861 he enlisted in Company D, Sixty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, for service in the Civil war, and being assigned to the Eastern Division he fought in the battle of Port Republic. He was discharged by order of the secretary of war on the 4th of August, 1862, being at that time a member of the board of engineers, and on the 10th of May, 1864, he was enrolled as first lieutenant of Company C, One Hundred and Thirty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was engaged in garrison duty in Virginia. Following his return from the war Mr. Clark lived in Logan county until moving to a farm in Hardin county in 1876, and in 1896 he established his home in the county seat of Kenton. He too is a stanch supporter of Republican principles, and for one term he served his county as a member of its board of commissioners, was two terms trustee of Rock township, and for eight years was the postmaster of Kenton.

On the 15th of January, 1867, at Belle Center, Ohio, Mr. Clark was married to Elsie J. Ritchey, who was born in Logan county, February 11, 1844, a daughter of William and Martha Ritchey. She attended Geneva College at Northwood in Logan county. Her parents were among the early pioneers of that county, coming from Washington county, Pennsylvania, and settling in the town of Belle Center, where William Ritchey followed his trade of a carpenter. The following children blessed the marriage union of Mr. and Mrs. Clark: William B. Clark, born April 18, 1869, at Belle Center, was educated at the Zanerian Business College at Columbus, Ohio, and is now a merchant at Huntingburg, Indiana. Alvin L. Clark, born September 7, 1870, at Belle Center, attended the Kenton schools and the Ohio Normal University at Ada, Ohio, and is now assistant postmaster at Kenton. Walter H. Clark was born at Belle Center November 21, 1874. He attended the schools of Kenton, and is now a merchant at Marion, Ohio. James P. Clark, born May 5, 1876, at Belle Center, is engaged in fruit raising on McKinley, Isle of Pines, Cuba. Mary J. Clark, born September 12, 1880, died on the 24th of August, 1898. Mr. Clark is one of the elders of the Presbyterian church at Kenton, and he is also a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Grand Army of the Republic.

W. O. Weir, superintendent of the school at Dunkirk, Hardin county, Ohio, was born in 1868, at Forest in the county in which he now lives. His parents, John and Miriam (Case) Weir, were both born in Ohio, the former in the county of Coschocton and the latter in Wyandot county. About a year previous to the birth of the subject of this sketch they moved to Hardin county and settled at Forest, where the mother died some years ago and where the father still lives. In their

family were four children: Arthur J., Edgar C., C. O. and W. O.—all of Hardin county except Arthur J. who is a resident of Toledo, Ohio.

W. O. Weir received his preparatory education in the Forest high school. Then he entered Ada University, where he graduated in 1893, and subsequently he took a course at Lima College. He is a graduate of the last named institution with the class of 1908. In the meantime he was engaged in teaching. When a boy in high school it was his intention to become a teacher, and his subsequent studies were pursued with this end in view—to fit himself for the responsible position not only a teacher but of a first-class teacher. He received a common school life certificate in 1899, and a high school life certificate in 1906. He taught successfully in the rural schools for eleven years and for twelve years has been connected with high school work, the past eight years as superintendent of the Dunkirk High School. This school had its origin in 1866, when the union school system was organized, and in 1867 a four room brick building was erected, which was replaced in 1883 by the present school building, erected at a cost of forty-eight thousand five hundred dollars. In 1902 the school was reorganized as a second grade high school, and in 1904 it was raised to a first grade. At this writing (1909), the high school, which comprises four grades, has an enrollment of eighty-four, and the elementary school with its eight grades, has an enrollment of one hundred and twenty-one. At present nine teachers are employed in the schools numbering W. H. Mustard, H. B. Williams, J. W. Millette, S. D. Rank, J. R. Bowland, F. J. Stinchcomb, E. W. Green, and W. O. Weir. The first man to preside here as superintendent was W. H. Mustard. He was followed by H. B. Williams, the present superintendent of the Sandusky City schools, and next came W. O. Weir, who as above stated, has been superintendent eight years. Professor Weir's principal and assistant in the high school are C. C. Barnes and John R. Bowland, respectively, both of whom are graduates of the Ada University.

Professor Weir married, 1894, Miss Anna O'Brien, a native of Forest, Ohio, born in 1869, and they have one son, Paul V., born in 1899, and who is now in the fifth grade of the public schools. In both fraternal and church circles the Professor is prominent and active. He is treasurer of Lodge No. 549, F. & A. M. and of R. A. M. No. 138, and has membership in the I. O. O. F. and the K. of P. He worships with the Church of Christ. He has held the position of county teachers examiner for two terms, and has always stood for the advancement of the county's teachers. He has membership in all teachers' societies for advancement, is an ardent supporter of this town's welfare, eager for its advancement, and is a close student and an orator of ability, being in demand for teachers institutes and class addresses. His addresses are classic and he never fails to prove he has a mission for the young student and teacher. Professor Weir is also at present president of the Perfect Gate Company, capitalized at ten thousand dollars and located at Forest, Ohio.

William D. Smith

William D. Smith.—The city of Kenton, Ohio, is the scene of operation of many thriving manufacturing enterprises, whose success has contributed not a little to the welfare and growth of the city. Among the efficient and enterprising men at the head of these institutions is William D. Smith, who is president and superintendent of the Ohio Machine Tool Company. Mr. Smith is a native of Kentucky, born at Newport, April 17, 1859, a son of Daniel and Caroline Wagner Smith. His father was born near Frankfort and his mother in Berlin, Germany, and they had six children, three sons and three daughters.

William D. Smith received his education in the public schools of Kentueky, but only got as far as the fourth reader. At the age of fourteen years he became an apprentice to the trade of machinist in Cincinnati, where he served four years, a year and a half under special instruction. He then took charge of a department for the McFarland & Navgintonham Company, Cincinnati, manufacturers of machinery. Mr. Smith remained in their employ ten years, and then took charge of the Lodge-Davis Machine Tool Company, also of Cincinnati, with whom he remained eight years.

In 1867 Mr. Smith started in the machinist tool business on his own account in Cincinnati, and in 1891 moved this enterprise to Kenton, Ohio, where the business has since been carried on under the name of the Ohio Machine Tool Company. The concern has a capital stock of fifty thousand dollars, with a paid up capital of thirty-five thousand dollars. Mr. Smith is president and superintendent, H. A. Wise, secretary and treasurer, and Henry Gramlich, vice president. In times of great business activity the firm employs about seventy-five men, and they do a general line of machine tool manufacturing.

In 1881, Mr. Smith married Bessie Williamson, daughter of Robert Williamson, and to this union two children have been born, Harry and Flora. Mr. Smith is a member of the Royal Arcanum. Politically he is a Republican and takes a commendable interest in public affairs. He is a self made man, and has reached his present position through his own energy and ambition. He has been engaged in his present occupation since boyhood, and thoroughly understands every detail of the business under his charge. He is a man of high character and business probity, and is popular in business and social circles.

Robert L. Souder, M. D.—Prominent among those physicians of reputed experience, skill and ability who are enjoying a lucrative general practice in Ada, Hardin county, is Robert L. Sonder, M. D., a man of much professional knowledge and wisdom. A son of William Sonder, he was born, February 13, 1851, in Crawford county, Ohio, near Sulphur Springs.

A native of Loudoun county, Virginia, William Sonder, when a boy, migrated with his parents to Columbiana county, Ohio, where he grew to manhood, and began his career as an independent farmer. He subsequently moved to Crawford county, and for awhile continued his agricultural labors, owning a farm near Sulphur Springs. Giving up farming, he resided awhile at New Washington, from there coming, in 1861, to Ada, where he built a tannery, which he operated until his

retirement from active pursuits. Here he resided until his death, at the age of seventy-seven years. He was a man of sterling integrity, and a worthy member of the Presbyterian church. He married first, in Columbiana county, Nancy Stephens, who bore him eleven children. He married second, in 1840, in Crawford county, Margaret Latimer, who was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, a daughter of George Latimer, who was of Irish descent, and to them four children were born.

The youngest of his father's family of fifteen children, Robert L. Souder was ten years old when the family settled in Ada, where he acquired his preliminary education. After leaving the public schools, he studied under Dr. Lehr, before the organization of the college, and assisted his instructor as a pupil teacher. He afterwards taught in the public schools of Ada, serving one year as superintendent, in the meantime spending all of his leisure time in reading medicine with Dr. Ralph Davenport, of Ada. During the winter of 1873 and 1874 he attended lectures at the Ohio Medical College in Cincinnati, and the following winter attended lectures at the Detroit Medical College, from which he was graduated with the degree of M. D. in the spring of 1875. Beginning the practice of his profession at North Baltimore, Wood county, Dr. Souder remained there three years, afterwards spending five years at Metamora, Fulton county. Going from there to Nevada, Wyandot county, he built up a large and remunerative patronage, remaining there eighteen years. In 1902 the doctor came to Ada, and has since become one of the leading physicians of this part of Hardin county.

On February 17, 1876, Dr. Souder was united in marriage with Jennie Melhorn, who was born in Richland county, Ohio, a daughter of Captain Michael and Martha (Ahlefeld) Melhorn, of Ada. Mrs. Souder is a woman of culture and refinement, and prior to her marriage taught several terms in the public schools of Ada. The Doctor and Mrs. Souder have two children, namely: Donna, wife of H. L. Goodbrend, of Nevada, Ohio; and Ruth. The Doctor has accumulated a good property, and is the owner of the old Melhorn farming estate, which adjoins the village of Ada. He belongs to various medical organizations including the Hardin County Medical Society, the Northwestern Ohio Medical Association, the Ohio State Medical Society, and the American Medical Association. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and religiously he belongs to the Presbyterian church. He has always been identified with the Republican party, and while in Wyandot county served from 1897 until coming to Ada as a member of the Board of Pension Examiners.

Demoin Ewing.— One of the most enterprising young farmers of Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, Ohio, Demoin Ewing, was born in Silver Creek, Ohio, June 19, 1876, a son of Robert I. and Orilla J. (Harris) Ewing, the former of whom died in 1898. Mrs. Ewing is a daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth (Jewell) Harris, of Lincoln county, Ohio. The children born to Robert Ewing and his wife were: Demoin; Roy, a farmer living near Kenton; Alfaretta, wife of Thad W. Carr,

mentioned elsewhere in this work; and Glen, living in the state of Washington.

Demoin Ewing attended the public schools and received a liberal education. When about seventeen years of age he began working on a farm and he worked until about 1901 for Thad W. Carr. In 1901 he married Mary Carr Roberts, who was born January 29, 1879, daughter of Judson and Mary F. Roberts. Her mother died when she was an infant and she lived with her grandmother, Mrs. Lydia (Howell) Carr, until her marriage. Her grandfather was Washington Carr, father of Thad W. Carr mentioned above. Mrs. Lydia Carr was a daughter of Halsey Howell. Judson Roberts still lives on a farm in this county.

Mr. Ewing and his wife have two children, Edna, born May 29, 1902, and Fred Judd, born June 25, 1907. Mr. Ewing is a member of the local Grange. He is a Republican in politics and though actively interested in public affairs, has never cared for office.

NATHAN AHLEFELD.—The honored subject of this memoir was a scion of one of the sterling families of the old Buckeye state, was himself for many years prominently identified with business and civic interests in Hardin county and was called upon to serve in various posts of distinctive public trust and responsibility and was a citizen who ever commanded unequivocal confidence and respect in this section of the state. He passed the closing years of his life at his home in Kenton, this county, on the 9th of July, 1902, at which time he was sixty-eight years of age.

Nathan Ahlefeld was born in Richland county, Ohio, in the year 1833, and was a son of Rhinehard Ahlefeld, who was the founder of the family in America and who was a representative of a stanch old family of Germany where he was born and reared. About the year 1818 he immigrated to America and soon after his arrival came to Ohio and numbered himself among the pioneers of Richland county. In a remote way the ancestry is traced back to Danish origin, representatives of the name having moved from Denmark to Germany in the sixteenth century. In his native land Rhinehard Ahlefeld gained a good common school education and there he learned the miller's trade. After locating in Richland county, Ohio, he erected and operated a mill and there he also reclaimed from the forest a productive farm. In that county was solemnized his marriage to Phoebe Young, who was of German lineage and there all of their children were born. About 1849 the family removed to Allen county, Ohio, and later they removed thence to Hardin county and settled on a farm near Ada where the father died at the venerable age of seventy-six years.

Concerning the children of Rhinehard and Phoebe (Young) Ahlefeld the following brief data are entered: Mrs. Christina Moore resided in Allen county after marriage and there her death occurred when she was seventy-six years of age; Mrs. Martha Melhorn, a second daughter, was a resident of Hardin county after her marriage and she died at Ada, this county, at the age of seventy-six years; Mrs. Nancy Gilbert is now a resident of Burlington, Kansas; Mrs. Sarah Rockhill is a resident of

LeRoy, that state; Nathan is the immediate subject of this memoir; Peter is a resident of the city of Cleveland, Ohio; and Jacob resides in LeRoy, Kansas. Nathan Ahlefeld gained his early education in the primitive pioneer schools of his native county and was about sixteen years of age at the time of the family's removal to Allen county. They settled near Rockport where they remained a few years, after which they came to Hardin county and established a home about one-half mile north of the village of Ada, a place now known as the Lowry farm. Nathan Ahlefeld early became dependent upon his own resources. At the age of seventeen years he went to live in the home of Dr. Sager at Lafayette, Allen county, and he remained with this pioneer physician until he was about twenty-one years of age, having been employed in a store conducted by Dr. Sager and at other incidental occupations. Shortly before attaining his legal majority, in company with Calvin Gilbert, he set forth with an ox team and wagon for Minnesota where he secured from the government a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres upon which a portion of the city of Minneapolis now stands. He there remained about two years and in the meanwhile perfected his title to the land. At the expiration of the period noted he returned to Ohio, making a short stay in the city of Chicago, which was then a place of comparative obscurity, and upon reaching Allen county he rejoined Dr. Sager who soon afterward entrusted him with a small stock of goods which he installed in a modest building in the village of Ada where he built up a successful enterprise. He was appointed the first postmaster of the town and also served as local railroad agent at that point. He eventually bought a stock of goods from Mr. Sager, removed the same to another location in the village and succeeded in making the enterprise one of no inconsiderable scope and importance in the handling of general merchandise. He also became a successful dealer in real estate and his enterprise and initiative led him to identify himself with other lines of business through which he gained success, as he was recognized as a man of sterling integrity and as one possessed of marked business acumen. He served a second term as postmaster of Ada and shortly after the close of the war he erected the building in which was the first public hall of the town. This building, which is still standing, was also used by him for his mercantile establishment. Mr. Ahlefeld also became associated with his brother in the establishing of a bank at Ada and they conducted the same for a number of years. Still later, he served one term as county auditor, giving a most effective and acceptable administration.

In 1881 Mr. Ahlefeld disposed of his various interests in Ada and removed to Kenton where he entered into partnership with Curtis Wilkin, under the firm name of Ahlefeld & Wilkin, and they thereafter conducted a prosperous real estate and loan business until about 1893, when Mr. Wilkin retired from the firm, after which Mr. Ahlefeld continued the enterprise until about seven years prior to his demise. During these years he lived virtually retired and when he was called to the life eternal, the community lost one of its honored pioneer citizens and able business men. While a resident of Ada, Mr. Ahlefeld was agent for the famous Hog Creek Marsh Lands and the sale of the same was effected

through him. Through his own efforts Mr. Ahlefeld accumulated a competency but he did not hedge himself in with selfish interests but was ever ready to give his support and influence in connection with all enterprises and measures attending to advance the general welfare of the community. In addition to serving as county auditor, in 1871, he was appointed by Governor James E. Campbell a member of the board of managers of the Ohio State penetentiary at Columbus, and he continued in this position during the administration of Governor Campbell. In politics he was a stanch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party. Both he and his wife were identified with the Presbyterian church.

On the 22d of May, 1856, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Ahlefeld to Miss Celia E. Wiley, who was born in Worthington, Ohio, and who is a daughter of Dr. Isaac and Eliza (Lewis) Wiley, both of whom were born and reared in Ohio. Dr. Wiley traced his lineage back to Welsh origin and the founder of the family in America was Samuel Wiley, who came from Wales in 1765 and established his home at Snowhill, Maryland. He served as a patriot soldier in the war of the Revolution. His wife was of Spanish descent and they reared a family of several children. Dr. Isaac Wiley was one of the honored pioneer physicians of Ohio and for many years was engaged in the active practice of his profession at Worthington, this state, where his marriage was solemnized. He passed the closing years of his life in the home of his son-in-law, Nathan Ahlefeld, of this memoir, in the village of Ada, where he died at the advanced age of eighty-two years. The mother of Mrs. Ahlefeld was a relative of the historic Lee and Hull families of Virginia and her paternal grandfather was a soldier in the Continental line in the war of the Revolution. Mrs. Ahlefeld still resides in the attractive and commodious residence, on north Detroit street, which was erected by her husband upon his removal to Kenton.

In conclusion of this sketch is entered a brief record concerning the children of Mr. and Mrs. Ahlefeld. Ida is the wife of J. F. Andrews of Kenton; Albert G. is individually mentioned on other pages of this work; Effie L. is the wife of J. B. Andrews of Goshen, Indiana; Anna died at Ada, this county, at the age of two years, and Corinne is the wife of Curran Flanagan, editor and publisher of the *Kenton Democrat*.

Hon. Moses B. Walker, LL. D.—The late General Moses B. Walker was one of the strong men produced by the state of Ohio, the proud mother of stalwart sons who have given such a splendid account of themselves in the councils of commonwealth and nation, in the activities of the field, as well as of statesmanship. General Walker was a typical representative of the highest citizenship and patriotism of the Buckeye state. He was eminent as a brave soldier and a military leader; honored for his ability as a lawyer and a judge and widely recognized by the Republican party as a man to be implicitly trusted—one of their most gifted and moral representatives. Wherever there was work to be done, either on the battlefields of the militia or of politics—work which required manly stamina and a high grade of courage—there could always be found General Walker in the thick of the fray.

Moses B. Walker was a native of Fairfield county, Ohio, born on the 16th of July, 1819, and was a son of John and Mary (Davis) Walker. His mother was a native of Frederick county, Maryland, daughter of Ignatius and Mary (DeLamar) Davis, and was of French ancestry. John Walker, the father, was also a native of Maryland (St. Mary's county). He was a planter in that section of the state—a Catholic and a Whig; and his politics may have had something to do with his coming to Ohio in 1798. In that year he settled in the Scioto valley near Chillicothe, where he prospered as a farmer and a good citizen. With true southern spirit, he joined the other settlers in that part of the territory in their determined efforts to repel Indian attacks and invasion, and was one of the pioneers who erected the famous Martin blockhouse in the Scioto valley. Likewise, he gladly left his plow to participate in the war of 1812 and the final settlement of the score against Great Britain, serving during several campaigns as lieutenant of the home militia. In his earlier years Mr. Walker was a Catholic, thereby adhering to the faith of his forefathers in Maryland; but later he became a member and a leading worker in the Methodist church. In 1842 Mr. Walker moved with his wife to Van Buren county, Iowa, locating large tracts of land along the Des Moines river, some of which he improved and handled others as investments. He died in this locality about 1850. His wife was a woman of strong character and remarkable accomplishments. Through careful study, she gained a thorough knowledge of medicine and surgery, which she practiced to some extent—very unusual gifts and an almost unheard-of career for a woman of her day. Mrs. Mary Davis Walker died in Iowa in 1857, her son, Moses B., being then at the height of his standing as a citizen of Dayton, Ohio.

Until he was seventeen years of age the latter attended the country schools near his father's farm in the Scioto valley, working at the same time to assist in the maintenance of the household. When seventeen, he entered the freshman class of Augusta College, Kentucky, and after remaining in that institution for two years went to Cincinnati, where he spent a like period at the Woodward Preparatory School. At the end of his three years at Yale University he was obliged to return home on account of ill health. As soon as he was able to resume work, he commenced the study of law in the office of Judge Joseph H. Crane, of Dayton, and afterward attended lectures at the Cincinnati Law School, from which he graduated in 1845. He then formed a partnership with H. V. R. Lord, opening offices at Dayton and Germantown, Ohio, with himself in charge of the former and Mr. Lord, of the latter. Quite early during the period of his residence in Dayton Mr. Walker became identified with both the civic and military affairs of the community, at the breaking out of the Mexican war holding the commission of major of cavalry in the state troops. This he resigned to raise a company of infantry, but before an organization was effected an order came to accept no more troops; which prevented him from seeing service on Mexican soil. Continuing his law practice with Mr. Lord until the death of his partner, he then associated himself with Judge G. B. Holt, an eminent lawyer of Dayton, under the firm name of Walker, Holt & Walker, the

junior member of which was a nephew of Moses B. The senior of the firm served as a member of the Ohio senate in 1850-1, and was an unsuccessful congressional nominee in 1864 and 1866, although he made a remarkable run against an overwhelming normal majority for the Democracy.

At the opening of the Civil war, General Walker was commissioned captain of the Twelfth United States Infantry, but through his friend, Salmon P. Chase, he was appointed colonel of the Thirty-first Ohio Infantry and assigned to the army of the Cumberland under General Thomas. He first distinguished himself at the battle of Perryville. Fully recognizing his high standing at home General Rosecrans sent him to Ohio to recruit and organize troops. Owing to the unsettled political situation then prevailing and the bitter feeling existing between the two parties, these duties were as trying, and fully as important, as any which could have been assigned to him at the front. In the forming and practical organization of public sentiment toward the primary end of raising troops for the Union cause, General Walker accomplished a wonderful work, his stirring addresses, oral and printed, arousing wide-spread sympathy, enthusiasm and action. He returned to the front in time to participate in the battle of Stone River, as commander of the first brigade, third division, fourteenth army corps. He also bore a heroic part in the battle of Chickamauga, in which he was severely wounded. As a result he was not only publicly commended for his brave and skillful handling of troops, but on March 27, 1865, was commissioned brigadier general of volunteers, by brevet, and major and brevet lieutenant colonel in the regular army. Subsequently he participated in various military operations at Resaca, Dalton, Lookout Mountain, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Jonesboro and Nashville, and at the close of the war was honorably mustered out of the service as a retired colonel of the Regular army.

Upon his return to Ohio, General Walker engaged in the practice of the law at Findlay, but in 1868 was ordered to Texas on military duty. His professional abilities soon earned him high preferment at the hands of the administration, and by successive appointments he served both as district judge and as a member of the state supreme bench. In the latter capacity he served until the state was admitted to representation in Congress, his colleagues of the supreme court being Judges A. J. Hamilton, Morrell, Lindsay and Dennison. General Walker then returned north, settled at Kenton, Ohio, and resumed the practice of his profession in partnership with his sons, Willis and John. In 1879 he retired to his farm in the outskirts of that place, where he remained until his death, December 17, 1895. In his religious faith, the deceased was a Methodist, and his fraternal connections were with the Masons, Odd Fellows and his comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic.

General Walker was married, November 10, 1842, to Miss Maria C. Van Scoyke, daughter of Tobias and Elizabeth (Posey) Van Scoyke. The father was a merchant in Franklin and Germantown, Ohio, who gave his daughter a good education, partly in a private school of Dayton. Mrs. Maria Walker died at Germantown, July 3, 1853, leaving three

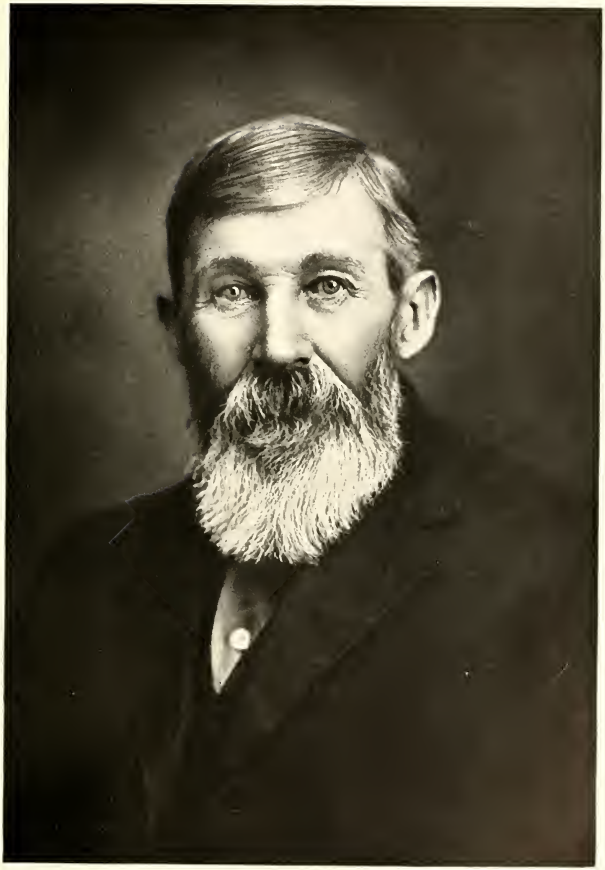
children. Of these Mary Elizabeth was born in Germantown and is now the wife of John T. Carlin, a retired citizen of Perrysburg, Ohio; John O. Walker, a native also of Germantown, is a graduate of the Michigan University Law School, practiced for a time but retired on account of ill health and lives in Kenton; and Antoinette, who was born at Dayton, is now the widow of E. F. Cullen and a resident of Austin, Texas.

On May 1, 1855, General Walker married, as his second wife, Miss Mary M. Hitt, the ceremony occurring at Vincennes, Indiana. She was a daughter of Dr. Willis M. and Mary (Reynolds) Hitt, both of Maryland, the latter being a descendant of Thomas Smith, a soldier of the Revolution. The second Mrs. Walker, who died October 16, 1907, at Kenton, Ohio, was also a cousin of the late Congressman Robert Hitt, of Illinois. The children of the second union were as follows: Willis S., who was born at Germantown, Ohio, graduated from the Law School of the Michigan University, and died at Spokane, Washington, January 10, 1890, being then engaged in practice there; Harriet R., born at Germantown, educated as a vocalist, married L. B. Tyson (now a retired druggist of Kenton) and died in that city, November 25, 1907; Mozelle H., who was born at Dayton, was educated as an artist, and married Eugene Rogers, a Kenton druggist; George W., born in Dayton, educated at Ohio Northern University, West Point and Ohio State University, and now professor of mathematics at the Pittsburg high school; Bessie F. was born in Findlay, educated at Delaware College, Ohio, and now resides in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and is married to a dry goods merchant of that city; Frank W., also a student of the Ohio State University (a native of Findlay), and a traveling salesman residing at Kenton; Mary L., who was born in Austin, Texas, was educated as a musician and is now engaged in professional work at Kenton; and De La Mar E. Walker, born at Findlay, also educated as a musician, and the wife of Paul K. Strong, an architect of Kenton.

The American ancestor of the Ohio branch of the Walker family to which General Walker belonged was John Walker, who settled in Maryland with Lord Baltimore, and was killed in the Revolutionary war at the battle of Eutaw Springs.

Anthony Ramsey, who owns and occupies a farm of ninety acres in Washington township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born at Kenton, this county, in 1840. Here he grew to manhood, receiving his education in the common schools, and early in life giving his attention to the shipping of stock. This business he followed for twenty-five years. He was reared on a farm, and in later years he naturally turned to the farm again. First, he bought eighty acres in Pleasant township. Afterward he owned other farms, aggregating in all nine hundred sixty-five acres.

Mr. Ramsey is a son of George and Lizzie (Peifer) Ramsey, natives of Germany, who emigrated to the United States in 1836, coming direct to Hardin county. Here George Ramsey purchased one hundred acres of unclaimed land. He was the first man in Hardin county to do any milling. His mill was a portable one, operated by horse power,



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and while he conducted business on a small scale it was sufficient for those pioneer days. Also he was the first man in the county to distill liquor. By trade he was a tailor, having served an apprenticeship in the old country; but in the new country in which they had settled they found new conditions to which they adapted themselves. His brothers had learned milling and distilling in Germany, and it was with their assistance that he engaged in these occupations here. George Ramsey was the father of four children: Anthony, Lizzie, Maggie and George, deceased, and when the children were small the father died, his death occurring in 1849. The mother lived to rear her little family, and to reach the ripe old age of eighty-six. She died April 27, 1905. The paternal grandfather of our subject was Henry Ramsey. He was the head of the family which emigrated to this country from Germany in 1836, as above stated, and his children were George, Lewis, Anthony, Coen, Dorotha and Lizzie. The maternal grandfather was Michael Peifer, also a German. The Peifer family came to America about the time the Ramseys did, and settled at Kenton. The children of Michael Peifer were: Adam, John, Michael, George, Barbara and Lizzie.

April 27, 1877, Anthony Ramsey married Miss Rose, daughter of Jacob and Harriet Hufnagle, who bore him three children: Hattie, who married Alexander Eberhart and has two children, Anna and Frederick; Georgiana died at the age of twenty-four; and Mark. Mrs. Ramsey was born in Crawford county, Ohio, March 2, 1851. Mr. Ramsey's mother came from Germany.

Dr. W. N. Mundy, a successful physician of Forest, was born in Jersey City, New Jersey, and his common and high school education were acquired in New York city. His further education was largely acquired through his own efforts, and he is a self-made man. He is a son of William N. and Margaret J. (Harris) Mundy, both natives of New Jersey; they had four children, namely: John, Mary, Lavina and William N. William N. Mundy, Sr., served in the Civil war, in the Eighth New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, for three years and three months. After serving the short term for which he first enlisted he reenlisted. He was promoted from rank of private to commissary sergeant of his company. William N. Mundy was son of Edward N. Mundy, a soldier in the war of 1812. The Mundy and Harris families are of English origin, and members of both families took part in the Revolution.

The Doctor received his medical education at The Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati, from which he graduated in 1883. In 1888 he entered New York Post Graduate Medical School and pursued a post graduate course, and in 1891 he took a special course in diseases of the eye and ear, in treating which organs he is a specialist. Dr. Mundy was living in Forest in 1875, being then a poor youth, though he had ambition and energy to better his position in life. In 1883 he returned to Forest, for the practice of his profession, and with a bright future before him, whose promise has been realized. He is now accorded a high place in his profession, and has the confidence and esteem of the community.

Dr. Mundy is editor of the *Ohio State Eclectic Medical Journal,* and secretary of the Ohio State Eclectic Medical Association. He is an instructor in the Eclectic Medical Institute, of Cincinnati, on diseases of children, which post he has held since 1894. He takes a special interest in this institution, being himself one of its graduates. Dr. Mundy is the author of a work on Diseases of Children and takes an intense interest in this very important subject. He is a member of the Northwestern Ohio Eclectic Medical Association, also a member of the National Eclectic Medical Association of which he is corresponding secretary and editor of its journal.

At present Dr. Mundy is a member of the school board of Forest, in which capacity he has served eighteen years. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is Past Grand Patriarch of Ohio. He is also Past Grand Representative of the state. In 1883 Dr. Mundy married Maggie J., daughter of J. K. and Lucinda Waltermire a native of Wyandot county. This union has been blessed with two children, Carl S. and Giles J.

Martin Luther Snyder.—A public-spirited and influential citizen of Ada, Martin Luther Snyder is widely and favorably known as junior member of the enterprising firm of Parlette & Snyder, publishers of the *University Herald,* and job printers. A son of the late Daniel Snyder, he was born in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, April 13, 1865, of German ancestry. His great-grandfather, DeWalt Snyder, was born in Germany, where his surname was spelled Schneider. Emigrating to the United States in early manhood, he became a pioneer settler of Somerset county, and took an active part in the advancement of its agricultural interests. Jacob Snyder, the grandfather of Martin Luther, was a life-long resident of Pennsylvania, and a successful farmer.

Daniel Snyder was born, reared and educated in Pennsylvania, and during his active life was engaged in tilling the soil in Rockwood, Somerset county, living there until his death, in 1891. He married Eliza Miller, who was born in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, where her father, Jonathan Miller, was for many years owner and manager of a grist mill. She is now living in Davenport, Nebraska, a venerable and esteemed woman of eighty-two years.

The seventh child in order of birth of a family of eight children, Martin Luther Snyder spent his boyhood days on the home farm, obtaining his early education in the district schools. He subsequently took special studies winters at the State Normal schools, and at the age of seventeen years began his career as a teacher, and taught several terms. Going to Nebraska in 1883, Mr. Snyder remained there five years, being engaged in general farming in Richardson county. Being then recalled to Pennsylvania on account of the serious illness of his father, he taught school in his old home township until 1891. Locating then in Ada, Ohio, Mr. Snyder entered the classical department of the Ohio Northern University, from which he was graduated in 1894. In 1895 he bought the half interest of E. E. McCoppin in the *University Herald* and job printing office, then owned by Parlette & McCoppin, and has since

carried on a substantial printing business as junior member of the firm of Parlette & Snyder.

Since 1890 Mr. Parlette has devoted the greater part of his time to the lecture platform, and Mr. Snyder has had full control of the plant, where he does general job printing, book work, and in addition publishes the *University Herald*, a weekly publication, which was established in 1885.

Mr. Snyder married, November 26, 1895, Ola Estella Feiss, a daughter of Gustavus and Sarilda Feiss, of Lima, Ohio, and to them five children have been born, namely: Barton F., Ruth L., Lowell F., Edith M., and Ralph L. Mr. Snyder is an earnest supporter of the principles of the Republican party, and active in public affairs. He is a consistent member of the Presbyterian church, and is chairman of its board of trustees.

Riley Park McElroy, M. D., a prominent physician of Ada, Ohio, dates his birth in Hancock county, this state, May 13, 1871, and is the only son and youngest child of George W. and Sarah (Parks) McElroy. George W. McElroy was a native of Hardin county, Ohio, and by occupation was a farmer. He died at the age of fifty-six years. His widow, a native of Hancock county, is still living there, she and her daughter, Mary Celesta, occupying the old home.

Riley P. was reared on his father's farm and studied his first lessons in a district school. By applying himself closely to his books, he qualified for the position of teacher before he emerged from his teens, and by teaching he paved his way to higher education and to a professional career. In the meantime he took a course at Findlay College and is a graduate of the latter with the class of 1896. Beginning at the age of eighteen he taught country school four winters in Hardin county, and subsequently was for three years an instructor in Defiance College. He spent four years attending the Baltimore Medical College, where he graduated in 1903 and afterward took special hospital work at Baltimore, and a course in the New York Post Graduate School. After his graduation in 1903, he entered upon the practice of his profession at Ada, where he has since continued successfully. He is a member of both the Hardin County Medical and the State Medical Societies.

Dr. McElroy is interested in farming, having a farm in Hancock county and one in Hardin county. Politically he is a Republican. He married, in 1902, Miss Cora Motter daughter of John Motter.

William Stoll is one of the young and influential agriculturists of Washington township, where he resides on a valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres. He was born in Pleasant township of Hardin county, March 17, 1878, being there also reared and educated, and starting in life for himself he chose the vocation of his ancestors. He is a grandson on the paternal side of one of the early pioneers of Hardin county, Conrad Stoll, who was born in Germany, and his children were Eliza, Maggie, Betty, George, Casper, John and Mrs. Andrews.

George C. Stoll, of the above family, was born in Hardin county

and has long been numbered among its most influential business men and farmers. In addition to the estate of two hundred and forty acres on which his son resides and superintends he has also a farm of eighty acres in Pleasant township, this latter being his homestead. He married in his early life Emma Reese, a native daughter of Germany, and five children have been born to them, namely: William, Philip, Julia, Millie and Mary, but the last named is deceased. William Stoll, their elder son, married on the 3d of May, 1904, Miss Electa Haynes, born in Goshen township, Hardin county, in 1883, and a son, Kenneth, has been born to them. Mrs. Stoll belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Stoll is a member of the Masonic order.

Robert A. Dempster, a respected citizen of Marion township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born November 13, 1839, in Franklin township, Harrison county, this state, and is a son of early pioneers of the Western Reserve. His paternal grandparents, Robert and Eliza (Hunter) Dempster, were of Scotch descent and both natives of Pennsylvania. Their son, John W. Dempster, the father of Robert A., was born in Jefferson, Ohio, August 7, 1817, and died October 3, 1904. He married in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, March 29, 1838, Miss Florania Huston, a native of Harrison county, this state, born May 20, 1820. Of the eight children born to them, four are now living: Robert A., Jacob, Catherine and W. Perry.

Robert A. Dempster grew up on his father's farm attending district school in winter and working in the fields in summer. About the time he reached his majority the Civil war came on, and he was among the first to tender his services to the Union cause. He enlisted in Company K, 33rd Ohio Volunteers, for three-months service, but was not called out, and was discharged in the fall. In August, 1862, he again enlisted, this time as a member of Company E, 13th Ohio Volunteers, and with his command joined the Army of the Cumberland. A short time before the battle of Stone river, he was taken down with pneumonia and was disabled for field service, but was on duty in hospital as medical cadet. He was honorably discharged, and was mustered out June, 28, 1865.

That same year, 1865, he was married at Cincinnati, Ohio, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary J. Possnett, a native of Pennsylvania, born June 25, 1838. Her father, William Possnett, was a native of Stockport, England. He was pressed into the English navy when a boy and spent some time on a man-of-war vessel. In 1815 he was a participant in the battle of Waterloo. He was born in 1800, and died in 1884. His wife, Margaret (Peacock) Possnett, was born in Pennsylvania, of Dutch parentage, in 1807, and died in 1891. For many years they lived in Cincinnati, where their daughter, Mrs. Dempster, was reared. To Mr. and Mrs. Dempster seven children were given, three of whom are living: William J. W., of Lima, Ohio; Alice, and Maude, the latter being the wife of Clark P. Henders of Westminster, Ohio, and Miss Alice lives with her parents.

Mr. Dempster is a member of the G. A. R. and, politically, is a

Republican. He and his family are identified with the United Brethren church at Herrod, in which for a period of twenty-one years he has served as quarterly conference secretary. Both he and his daughter Alice are active in Sunday school work, he being superintendent and she a teacher.

CHARLES CORWIN, a prominent farmer and stockman of Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, Ohio, is a native of the county, born in Hale township, September 8, 1855. He is a son of George W. and Rosa Jane (Eddy) Corwin, old settlers of the township. George was a son of Daniel Corwin, who died in 1900, at the age of eigthy-eight years. He married Nancy Williams and they came to Ohio from Pennsylvania, in 1827, settling in Logan county in 1827 and in 1843 removing to Hardin county. Mrs. Corwin died in 1851 and in the sixties Mr. Corwin married Mary Ann Bruce. He purchased part of the farm which is still in the family, after first renting part of the Eddy farm, and later farmed for Samuel McCullough. After his second marriage Mr. Corwin removed to New Scotland county, Missouri, where Mrs. Corwin died in 1882.

George W. Corwin was born in Logan county, Ohio, May 10, 1831, and died April 22, 1907. He received his education in the district schools and remained on the home farm with his parents until his marriage, May 3, 1852. He then worked two years in the employ of his uncle in Logan county, but returned to Hardin county and lived on the old Eddy farm nine years. In 1861 Mr. Corwin bought the present homestead of the family, which had but one acre cleared. He built a log house near the Ansley home and here spent the remainder of his life farming and raising stock. In 1876 Mr. Corwin engaged in the manufacture of tile, which business he afterward sold. He also did considerable timber working. He was a member of the Local Grange and politically was a Democrat. His wife was born May 7, 1833, and was a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Zimmerman) Eddy, who came to Hardin county from Virginia, in 1835. Mr. Eddy died January 12, 1857 and his widow died March 26, 1868. Mr. Corwin was a member of the Methodist church. Besides Charles, he and his wife had children as follows: J. D. born in 1853, now living in Missouri, married Launa Rummer, has three children, Pearl, Cora and Elbert; Gnettia, wife of H. Ash of Marion, has five children, Ella, Evert, Earl, Floyd and Edwin; George A. of Hale township, born in 1861, married Edith Marmon, and has three children, Fae, Albert and Olen; Harley, born in 1875, a farmer of Hale township, married Laura Deerwester, has two children, Erwin and Elton; Annabell is the wife of H. Carr and has two children, Maydean and Eddie Herbert; Elizabeth S. married G. McCoy and is the mother of five children, Ola, Jessie, Rosa, and Lillie and Hattie, deceased; Leander Corwin is deceased and Charles is the second child of the family.

The early days of Charles Corwin were spent on his father's farm and he received a good education in the public schools. He lived with his parents until he was twenty-eight years of age and then purchased a farm of forty-two acres. He has been very successful in his farming

operations and has paid considerable attention to fine stocks. He owns an interest in a thoroughbred horse in company with Ezra Vassar, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. Corwin has won success through his own efforts and is well known for his industry and good business judgment. Near his present home stands the old log house in which he was born, an old land-mark, which he moved to its present position. He is a substantial and representative citizen and has the confidence and esteem of all who know him. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and belongs to the Grange at Shiloh.

November 8, 1883, Mr. Corwin married Jennie McCoy, who was born August 7, 1865, in Lynn township, Hardin county, daughter of John McCoy, an old pioneer of the county, who died in 1884. His wife, Mary Taylor, was a daughter of James Taylor. Mrs. McCoy died at the age of forty-six years, when Mrs. Corwin was but seven years of age. Mrs. Corwin had one brother who died in infancy. After the death of her mother, Mrs. Corwin remained two years with her half-sister. Mr. Corwin and his wife became parents of children as follows: Izora, born in September, 1884, wife of Melvin McIntosh, a farmer of Logan county, has three children, Howard (six years old), Mildred Pauline (three years old), and Opal Lucille (one year old); Otis Dan, born May 24, 1886, at home; Mamie, born January 20, 1889, wife of P. D. Winter, of Hale township; Waldo Hayes, born April 29, 1891, at home; Ruth, born July 26, 1893, died in infancy; Lena, born April 6, 1895; Clarence M., born January 24, 1898; and George Ralph, born June 26, 1901. Mrs. Corwin belongs to the Methodist church and to the Grange. She is a member, also of the Woman's Relief Corps.

Joel L. Russell.—Among the sterling citizens of Hardin county whose memories form an indissoluble link between the pioneer past and the present days of opulent prosperity and advanced civilization is Joel L. Russell, who is a native son of the county and who has here maintained his home during his entire life thus far. He was for many years identified with agricultural interests in the county and contributed his quota to the development and upbuilding of the county which represented little more than an untrammeled wilderness at the time of his birth. He is now living retired in the city of Kenton, where he has an attractive home and is surrounded by the gracious influences and comforts which are a just reward for former years of earnest toil and endeavor. His reminiscences of the pioneer days are most graphic and interesting, and he finds much pleasure in recalling the days long past, the while he has full appreciation of the conditions that now stand in evidence of the sturdy labors of those who laid the foundations for one of the finest counties in the old Buckeye state.

Joel L. Russell was born on the pioneer farm of his parents, in Pleasant township, Hardin county, Ohio, on the 13th of December, 1838, and is a son of Solomon and Elizabeth (Brown) Russell, the former of whom was born in Rockingham county, Virginia, in 1803, and the latter of whom was born in Baltimore county, Maryland, on the 12th of November, 1804. The marriage of the parents was solemnized on

the 1st of October, 1824, and upon coming to Ohio they first settled in Fairfield county, where they remained a few years. In the spring of 1833 they removed to Hardin county, where the father secured from the government one hundred and sixty acres of heavily timbered land in Pleasant township, the family living and sleeping in the wagon, while the father proceeded to chop away the timber and clear a place to build his cabin. Only those who know by experience the herculean work demanded in the uprearing of the simple log buildings of the pioneer days can appreciate the necessity of each settler's securing the co-operation of his neighbors, and it is pleasing to revert to the good will and sympathy that marked the early days, when all were friends and when the society of the widely separated neighbors was highly valued. In the years 1834-35 the county commenced to settle up very fast and were all anxious to get a field cleared for corn, and father attended twenty-eight log rollings in one spring. He lived up to the full tension of the pioneer days and worked without ceasing in the reclamation of his land, that he might provide for his family and eventually gain the goal of definite independence and prosperity. He continued to reside on his pioneer homestead until death, which occurred when he was only thirty-seven years of age, but his wife survived him by a number of years, she having been about eighty-five years of age at the time when she was summoned to the life eternal. They were folk of sterling integrity of character, earnest, sincere and unassuming, and they ever commanded the unqualified esteem of the community in which they established their home and girded themselves to endure the privations and other hardships that are ever the lot of the pioneer. Of the seven children only two are now living, Joel L., who is the immediate subject of this review, and Richard S., who is a successful farmer near the city of Indianapolis, Indiana.

In a reminiscent way Joel L. Russell related to the representative of this publication a most interesting and somewhat humorous account of an incident that occurred when he was an infant, the same being largely a conversation between his honored parents, who described the matter to him after he had attained to years of comprehension. The narrative is reproduced substantially in his own words, and it will be noted that his father referred to the mother under the home name of Betty, an affectionate abbreviation of her name Elizabeth. The following is Mr. Russell's account.

"In the spring of 1839, I was the boy of the family the sixth on the list. Mother was very discouraged at the gloomy prospects, thinking at times that all of us were destined to die of starvation in the wilderness about us. Father, however, never yielded to discouragement and his faith never faltered. At that time no roads or bridges had been constructed in this section, and the nearest mill available to the settlers of Hardin county was nine miles distant, at Marseilles, Wyandot county, whither they had to make their way over the straggling trails blazed through the forest. A mill had been erected on the Scioto river, but the same was out of commission at the time mentioned. Flour was to be had in the little village of Kenton, but money among the settlers

was practicallly an unknown quantity, so that my father was in no worse situation than the average settler. On a certain Saturday he was busy working in his maple-sugar camp, and he said to his wife, 'Betty, we will have sugar and molasses and honey and venison, so that we can feast like royal Turks. Yes, there are turkeys also,—the woods are full of them. If I don't sleep well tonight I'll have one for Sunday dinner.' When my mother awoke in the morning my good father, Solomon, was gone, as was also his rifle, which hung on hooks over the door when not in use. Just then my mother heard a shot, and she forthwith came to the conclusion that father had killed a turkey, so she put the kettle over the fire of the great fireplace and prepared to have hot water ready for the scalding of the savory fowl. But her religious scruples were somewhat roused and she said to herself, 'Solomon will hear from me when he comes with that turkey. Why did he go to the woods on Sunday? He never did that before.' My father, like many other of the sturdy men on the frontier, was a good shot and found much satisfaction in his hunting trips. When he arrived at the house my mother chided him for his desecration of the Sabbath, but she gazed with no little amazement at the trophy he had brought in place of the promised turkey. The woods were infested with innumerable wolves, whose ravages made it almost impossible for the settlers to keep sheep, which had to be placed in a correl every night for protection. So great was the loss caused by the wolves that the authorities provided for the payment of five dollars for each wolf scalp brought to them. When father came to the house he said, 'Look, Betty,' whereupon he dropped a great, gray timber-wolf pelt and scalp on the floor. 'Providence gave them to me, and we won't starve.' Father was an adept in dressing skins and he transformed the wolf pelt into a nice rug, while he took the scalp to Kenton and received the five dollars in bounty, thus enabling him to provide the flour whose lack had caused my mother so much distress and worry. My father admonished my mother to always trust in Providence, and her reply was: 'But, Solomon, don't go again to the woods on Sunday.' And he never did."

In politics Solomon Russell was aligned as a stanch supporter of the cause of the old Whig party and he took a loyal interest in public affairs in the pioneer community. Both he and his wife were earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and their lives were lived in harmony with the faith they professed. Their names merit an enduring place on the roll of the worthy pioneers who aided in the initial stages of development and progress in this now favored section of the old Buckeye state.

Joel L. Russell, whose name initiates this sketch, was reared to the sturdy discipline of the pioneer farm, and, as may be supposed, his early educational advantages were most meager. When but ten years of age he found it incumbent upon him to begin to provide for himself and assist in the support of the family. At that early age he found employment on neighboring farms, and for some time he received in recompense for his services the princely sum of four dollars a month. Later he secured a position as engine-rubber for the Mad River & Lake

Erie Railroad Company, which line is now a part of the great New York Central System, and after a short period he was given employment as a helper on an engine making regular runs over the line, his duties being to pass wood to the fireman on one of the old-style engines. He was thus engaged about six months, at the expiration of which his guardian, appointed after the death of his father, caused him to resign, considering the work too dangerous. He then resumed farm work at the former recompense of four dollars a month and board, and he continued to be identified with agricultural pursuits as an employe for a period of thirteen years, securing increase in wages from time to time as his services became more valuable. He gained experience in all details of farm work and was thus well fortified for successful enterprise when he initiated his independent career as a farmer and stock-grower.

Mr. Russell was about twenty-five years of age at the time of his marriage, and he forthwith settled on a farm which he had inherited from the estate of his father. This property comprised fifty-three and a third acres and was located in Pleasant township. He improved the property and developed the same into one of the valuable farms of Hardin county. With the passing of years his success was cumulative and he finally gained independence and substantial competency. He added to the area of his original farm until he owned a valuable landed estate of eighty acres, improved with good buildings and maintained under a high state of cultivation. For fully forty years Mr. Russell continued to reside on his farm and to give his attention to its supervision, and he then felt that he was entitled to retire from the heavy labors that had thus marked his active career. Accordingly, in November, 1904, he sold his farm and removed to Kenton, where he purchased his present attractive and modern residence property, on West Columbus avenue, where he and his wife find much of pleasure in extending gracious hospitality to their wide circle of old and valued friends.

In politics Mr. Russell has ever accorded an unswerving allegiance to the Republican party, and he cast his first vote in support of Abraham Lincoln for the presidency. In local affairs of a public order he has ever shown a loyal and helpful interest, and while he has never been a seeker of office, he served as school director in his home township for the long period of twenty-four years, during which he did all in his power to advance the standard of the schools of the locality. In a retrospective way it may be stated that his maternal grandfather, Richard Brown, was likewise a sterling pioneer of Maryland, and that he was a valiant soldier in the war of 1812. Mr. Russell is well known in his native county, and here he has ever command unequivocal confidence and esteem. He and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church in Kenton.

On the 26th of November, 1863, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Russell to Miss Rebecca A. Allen, who was born in Hardin county, on the 9th of March, 1838, and who is a daughter of Abel H. and Rebecca (Mackey) Allen, the former of whom was born in Hardy county, West Virginia, November 7, 1803, and the latter of whom was born in Frank-

lin county, Ohio, on the 12th of July, 1810. Mr. and Mrs. Allen took up their residence in Hardin county in the spring of 1833, and he assisted in raising the first house in Kenton, the same having been located on what is now West Franklin street. In the early days he carried mail on horseback between Bellefontaine and Sandusky, his horse having to swim all the rivers between those places. He became one of the substantial farmers of Hardin county, where both he and his wife continued to reside until death. In conclusion is entered a brief record concerning the children of Mr. and Mrs. Russell; Jessie, who was born on the 30th of December, 1865, is the wife of William H. Young, of Tiffin, Ohio; Eva Estella, who was born April 5, 1871, is the wife of William S. Cessna, of Kenton, Ohio, and they have one child, Mary Rebecca, the only grandchild of Mr. and Mrs. Russell; and M. Allen Russell, who was born on the 8th of December, 1873, is a locomotive engineer and maintains his home in Kenton with his parents; he is not married.

Carl Price.—The name of Carl Price occupies a high place in the business life of Kenton, and he has attained his prestige by personal effort. He was born in this city, a son of Henry Price, and the training which he received in the Kenton public schools was supplemented by a business course in the Ohio Northern University at Ada. In 1893 he purchased a half interest of Dorr White in the old White Marble Works in this city, an industry that had been established by Mr. White's father in about the year of 1853, and in 1903 Mr. Price bought his partner's interest in the business and in 1904 incorporated it for twenty-five thousand dollars, becoming at that time and ever since remaining its president. He moved the plant from South Main street, where it had been located up to this time, to Leighton street, where a splendid two-story brick building has been erected and equipped with a complete set of the latest improved machinery for manufacturing marble and granite in all its forms. This is one of only about ten plants of its kind in the entire state of Ohio, and as the others are located in the state's largest cities, Kenton has the distinction of having the largest and best equipped manufacturing plant of its kind in any town of its size in Ohio, and this has been brought about almost solely through the splendid efforts of Carl Price, one of Kenton's native sons.

Mr. Price is a Knight Templar Mason and a Knight of Pythias, and he is one of the leading members of Kenton's Disciple church. He is also the superintendent of the Sunday-school connected with his church, which has a membership of over four hundred, and he takes a deep interest in the work and is one of the Sunday-school's valued promoters. He has never been active in the political life of his community, but is a public-spirited citizen and actively interested in the upbuilding and improvement of his home city.

John Neff of Washington township, Hardin county, Ohio, is recognized as one of the prosperous farmers and highly respected citizens of his community. Mr. Neff is a native of Ohio. He was born in

J. L. Dickelman

Van Buren township, Hancock county, in 1854, son of Peter and Barbara (Peifer) Neff, natives of Germany, who emigrated to this country in 1884 and settled in Hancock county. Peter Neff's first purchase of land was forty acres. Afterward he bought an eighty-acre farm, to which he subsequently added thirty acres, making a tract of one hundred and ten acres. Here he and his wife reared their family, and lived for many years. She died in 1875; he, in 1893. Ten children were born to them, all of whom grew to maturity; Adam, Peter (deceased), Elizabeth (deceased), Phillip (deceased), Kate, John, Mary (deceased), Lucinda, Barbara and Minnie.

John Neff's boyhood days were not unlike those of other farmer boys in Ohio. He grew up in his native county, receiving his education there, and on reaching man's estate engaged in the lumber business with his father and brother at Dunkirk. There for about twelve years they operated a planing mill, under the name of Neff & Company. In 1881, John Neff sold his interest in the business to J. A. Orth, the present owner and operator of the mill; and on severing his connection with the mill, he took up farming, which he has since successfully followed. He now owns two farms in Washington township, one of which, an eighty acre tract, he purchased in 1889; the other, seventy acres, in 1900.

Mr. Neff first came to Hardin county in 1877. Here, in 1879, he married Miss Lydia Naef. She was born in Washington township in 1858, daughter of George and Elizabeth Naef, who came here from Sandusky, Ohio, in 1855. On his arrival in Washington township, Mr. Naef purchased the farm upon which the Neff family now (1909) reside, Here Mr. and Mrs. Naef reared their family and passed the rest of their lives. Her death occurred in 1875, and his in 1899. Of their six children, the first three, George, Mary and Emma, are deceased. Those living are Lydia, Amanda and Charles. Mr. and Mrs. Neff have had ten children, of whom seven are living: Cora M., Emma, Henry O., Frederick, Olive E., Ina I., Edith P. Carl E. and Alfred L., the two youngest and the third child died in infancy. Two of the daughters, Cora M. and Emma, are married, the former being Mrs. S. C. Daniels, the latter, Mrs. H. McClane. Mr. Neff and his family attend worship at the Presbyterian church at Dola.

J. L. Dickelman.—The plant owned by the Dickelman Manufacturing Company was organized in 1879, by O. E. Rhodes and Lafayette A. Strauble, February 14, 1888, it was taken over by a new firm, known as Rhodes, Dickelman & Company, with J. L. Dickelman as manager. This partnership continued up to 1892, at which time F. M. Bowers was taken into partnership; in January, 1896, Mrs. L. A. Strauble sold her interest to Miss Lizzie H. Dickelman. In January, 1898, J. L. Dickelman, F. M. Bowers and Lizzie H. Dickelman purchased the interest of O. E. Rhodes, and the firm was known as Dickelman-Bowers Manufacturing Company, which continued until December, 1892, at which time F. M. Bowers sold his interests to his two partners. The firm then took the present name, under which it has since carried on business. In

1908 J. L. Dickelman sold his interests to Lizzie H. Dickelman, and formed a stock company and became manager of the concern.

The plant manufactures metal roofing, shingles, gutters, eave spouts and eave troughs, of various kinds. Under the management of J. L. Dickelman, who largely built up the business, the annual volume of business increased from $15,000 to $546,000 in 1907, and it promises to continue to increase under the efficient management of his daughter, now at the head of the concern. The business was at first carried on in a shed some twenty-two by fifty feet, and its present factory is a fine two-story building one hundred thirteen feet by two hundred forty-three feet, besides two ware-rooms, one eighty-eight by eighty and the other forty by eighty feet, with two stories. The offices are contained in a three-story brick building, twenty-eight feet by forty-nine feet, with steam heat and other modern conveniences. Dickelman Manufacturing Company employ in their plant some fifty workmen, and keep fourteen salesmen busy on the road; they employ three stenographers, one bookkeeper, three assistants and other clerks.

J. L. Dickelman, to whom a large share of the success of this enterprise is attributable, was born in Germany, in 1839, and emigrated to this country with his parents in 1842. The family came first to Cleveland, Ohio, but later removed to New York City, thence to Albany, and finally to Syracuse, New York, where the father died in 1849. The mother died in 1850, at Cleveland, where she had returned after her husband's death, leaving J. L. Dickelman a lad of eleven years, dependant upon his own resources. He soon began working at farming, which he continued some three and a half years, and next worked a short time at the blacksmith's trade. He worked ten years in a grist mill and then for three years had charge of a stone quarry. During all this time he had spent most of the winters at wood cutting, clearing land, and other various jobs, which might serve him to get ahead in the world, which he was bound, with his enterprise and ambition, to do.

April 15, 1861, Mr. Dickelman enlisted in Company D, Fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, was discharged the same year and reenlisted for three years in the same command. He was promoted from time to time in recognition of his meritorious service, and finally became second lieutenant. He was honorably discharged in 1864, and returned to Cleveland. However, he still heard the call of his adopted country, and in 1864 he joined with Captain C. B. Gibson in recruiting a company; at his final discharge he held the rank of first lieutenant. Mr. Dickelman participated in many battles, among them: Rich Mountain, Grenocks Ford, Petersburg, Romney, Blues Gap, Bloomer Gap, Winchester, Strasburg, Front Royal, Seven Days' Fight, Bull Run Second, Fredricksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Bristoe Station, Mine Run, Morton's Ford, Spottsylvania Court House, North Anna, Cold Harbor and many minor engagements.

In 1860 Mr. Dickelman had located in Patterson, Hardin county, and at the close of the war he returned to Patterson and engaged in the sale of books, chiefly the "History of the Civil War," in which he took an immense interest himself. Subsequently he engaged in the manu-

facture of brick, and in the fall of 1866 went to Sandusky, Ohio, where he began working for James Woolworth in the manufacture of tool handles. He spent twenty-one years in this business, the first ten years as timberman, and the other eleven years had charge of the nine factories of the firm, located in Kentucky and Tennessee.

In 1868 Mr. Dickelman married Miss Mary H. Worley, of Patterson, Ohio, and to this union were born nine children, eight of whom grew to maturity, namely: Lizzie H., Mrs. Maud Swimley, Mrs. Nettie Purdy, Mrs. Zeola Test, J. W. (deceased), Cora O., Mrs. Clara Breese and Lawrence.

Besides owning town property Mr. Dickelman has four valuable farms, two in Jackson township, consisting of one hundred seventy and one hundred ninety-two acres respectively, one in Wood county, of one hundred sixty acres, and a forty-acre farm in Missouri, underlaid with zinc. His farms in Ohio are well equipped with buildings, all erected by Mr. Dickelman. He is a public-spirited citizen, actively interested in public affairs. He is a Royal Arch Mason.

Aubrey Hampton Wood.—Especially worthy of note among the practical and prosperous agriculturists of Hardin county is Aubrey H. Wood, one of the leading farmers of Dudley township. A son of Dr. James Madison Wood, one of the foremost physicians of Dudley township, he was born, September 11, 1882, in Larue, Marion county, Ohio. A sketch of Dr. Wood appears elsewhere in this work.

Completing the course of study in the public schools at the age of sixteen years, Aubrey H. Wood entered the Ohio Northern University, which he attended two years. Becoming a farmer from choice, he afterwards remained at home five years, but since that time has had entire charge of his father's farm of two hundred and eighty acres, lying near Hepburn. In addition to raising the crops common to this section of the country, Mr. Wood keeps about thirty head of cattle, being one of the most extensive and successful dairymen of the county, and carries on a substantial business in raising and shipping hogs and stock. In the management of his agricultural interests he shows marked ability using excellent judgment in his operations. His farm being well cultivated and productive.

On August 1, 1906, Mr. Wood was united in marriage with Bertha Drews, who was born in Horst Pomerania, Germany, a daughter of Frederich and Christina (Lindenberg) Drews, of Larue, Ohio. Her father, a retired farmer, served in the Austrian war in 1860 and Franco-Prussian war in 1870-71, and is now seventy-seven years of age, while her mother is sixty-eight years old. They were both born and bred in Germany, coming from there to the United States in 1887 when Mrs. Wood was a child of three years, and locating in Larue, Marion county, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Drews have three children, namely: Bertha, now Mrs. Wood; William, of Lima, Ohio; and Gus, an electrician in Monaca, Pennsylvania. The pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. Wood has been brightened by the birth of two children, namely: Madison Florian, born in 1907; and Esther Annabelle, born in 1909. A stanch Republi-

can in politics, Mr. Wood takes great interest in public matters, and in 1907 was elected justice of the peace. Fraternally he belongs to the blue lodge, A. F. & A. M., at Larue, and to Hepburn Tent No. 23, K. O. T. M. Religiously he is a valued and trustworthy member of the United Brethren church.

ENOS WHEELER.—A well known and highly respected resident of Hardin county, Enos Wheeler, a veteran of the Civil war, has for many years been successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits, having a well improved farm in Lynn township. A son of Elihu Wheeler, he was born, August 28, 1842, in Noble township, Noble county, Ohio, coming from substantial New England stock.

Elihu Wheeler, whose father's name was, also, Enos Wheeler, was born in Maine, his birth occurring in 1811. Migrating when a young man to Ohio, he purchased land in Noble county, and by dint of persevering toil cleared and improved a valuable homestead, on which he and his wife spent their remaining years. He married, in Noble county, Ohio, Harriet Fogle, who was of Scotch descent, and to them six children were born, as follows: Enos, the subject of this brief biographical sketch; Solomon; Maranda; Lydia; Josiah; and Sylvester.

Gleaning his early education in the district schools of Noble township Enos Wheeler was initiated as early as practicable in the mysteries of farming. He proved a faithful worker, and remained on the parental homestead until after the breaking out of the Civil war. A certificate of record compiled by M. Wallingford, historian of the Soldiers and Sailors Historical and Benevolent Society certifies that Mr. Wheeler enlisted, August 9, 1862, from Noble county, Ohio, to serve for three years or during the war, and that he was mustered into service, September 10, 1862, at Camp Marietta, Ohio, as private in Company E, Ninety-second Ohio Volunter Infantry, under Captain Erwin G. Dudley and Colonel Douglas Putnam, Jr.

On October 7, 1862, the regiment was ordered to Point Pleasant, becoming a part of Gilbert's Brigade, Lightburn's Division, but was afterwards assigned to General George Crook's Brigade, Baird's Division, Fourteenth Corps, Army of the Cumberland. With his comrades Mr. Wheeler took part in various engagements, including those at Pocataligo Creek, Virginia; Hoover's Gap, Tennessee; Lane Chapel, Georgia; Tullahoma, Tennessee; Chickamauga; Chattanooga; Brown's Ferry; Lookout Mountain; Mission Ridge; and in a number of minor engagements and skirmishes. At the battle of Mission Ridge, November 25, 1863, the said Enos Wheeler, so reads the certificate, was wounded in the left shoulder by gunshot, and taken to the hospital at Nashville, where he remained two months. Then, receiving a furlough, he remained at home four months, when he joined his regiment at Resaca, Georgia. On account of disability from wounds, he was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps. He received his honorable discharge at Nashville, Tennessee, August 5, 1865, by reason of the close of the war In compensation for his brave military services during the conflict, Mr. Wheeler now receives a pension of seventeen dollars a month, a sum which he well deserves.

Soon after his marriage Mr. Wheeler began farming in Noble county remaining there until 1883, when he disposed of his interests in that part of the state, and came to Hardin county. Buying fifty acres of heavily wooded land in Lynn township, he began the arduous task of redeeming a farm from the wilderness, and has since transformed his property into one of the best farming estates in the township.

On March 8, 1866, Mr. Wheeler was united in marriage with Violetta Lamley, who was born in Noble county, Ohio, April 3, 1844, a daughter of Henry and Dorcas (Linton) Lamley. Two children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler, namely: Amos D., born January 18, 1867, married Etta Dillon; and Hattie L., born June 21, 1871, is the wife of Marcena S. Spencer, of Hepburn, Ohio. Politically a Democrat, Mr. Wheeler served for six years as trustee of Lynn township, and socially he is a member of Post No. 97, Grand Army of the Republic, of Kenton. Mrs. Wheeler is a consistent Christian, and a valued member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Foraker.

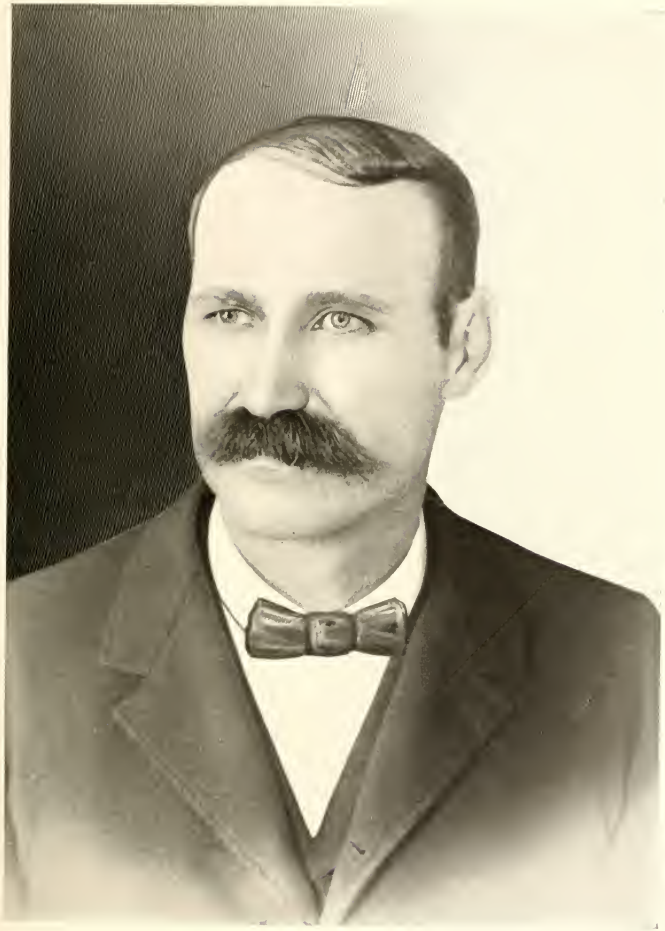
Leonard S. Cox.—The bar of Hardin county numbers among its able representatives Leonard S. Cox, a practicing attorney at Mt. Victory. He was born on a farm in York township, Union county, Ohio, December 16, 1876, and he is a son of George W. Cox and a grandson of Joshua Cox, who was born in 1801 in Maryland, and who died in Harrison county in 1854. He married Adatha Bell, born in 1810, and she came in 1865 with her family to Union county and spent the remainder of her life there. After leaving the school room George W. Cox, their son, worked for several years for neighboring farmers, and then buying the Cox homestead in York township, Union county, he has since lived there and farmed. He is a Republican in his political affiliations, but has never desired the honors or emoluments of public office. He married in September of 1875 Rebecca Sigler, born August 17, 1854, a daughter of William and Mary (Cook) Sigler, both of whom were among the first settlers of York township. The children born of this union are: Leonard S. Cox, the Mt. Victory lawyer; Iva Dell, the wife of William Layman, of Toledo; Edna F., wife of Milton Southard, a farmer in Union county; Belle, a teacher in the Union county schools; Hazel, wife of Elmer Miller, also a member of the teacher's profession; and Gail, at school.

Leonard S. Cox attended public schools until the age of twenty-one, and afterward taught school for three years in Union county, and following this pursued a course in the Ohio Business Institute. In 1902 he engaged in the insurance business, from 1904 until 1906 was an attendant in the Toledo State Hospital, and coming to Mt. Victory in the last named year he was admitted to the bar on the 19th of June, 1906, and has since practiced in this city. He is an active Republican worker, and was elected a justice of the peace in 1907, and is quite prominently identified with the fire insurance and real estate business. He has fraternal associations with the Knights of Pythias fraternity, Lodge No. 734.

PHILIP J. CORWIN.—One of the most prominent business men of Lynn township is found in Philip J. Corwin, who became identified with Hardin county and its interests in 1895. In that year he leased the farm of William Lawrence, which is an extensive tract of five hundred and fifty acres lying in Lynn township. He has become extensively and widely known as a stock buyer and feeder, selling in carload lots, and during the past twenty-six years he has also been engaged extensively in buying and selling wool, shipping from both Kenton and Yelverton.

Mr. Corwin was born in Logan county, Ohio, May 1, 1843, a son of George and Margaret (Dickinson) Corwin. George Corwin was born in Champaign county, Ohio, August 12, 1815, and he was a son of Phineas Corwin, who was from Pennsylvania. Margaret Dickinson was born on September 17, 1817, and was a daughter of Thomas and Maria Dickinson, who came from their native state of Virginia to Ohio in the year of 1812. Phineas Corwin became the father of seven sons and a daughter: John, Oliver, Dan, Jacob, Thomas, George, Phineas and Mary A. George Corwin was reared in Champaign county, and after his marriage he came to Logan county and spent the remainder of his life there, a life-long farmer and stock raiser. He became the father of four sons and five daughters, namely: Philip J., Ann M., Milton, Leidigh Jane, Emily, Martha, Zachius, Austin A. and Etta. Philip J. Corwin, the first born of these nine children, was reared as a farmer boy in Logan county, attending its district schools until the age of eighteen, and since laying aside his text books he has been identified with the farm. He remained at home with his parents until his marriage at the age of twenty-two years to Sarah A. Wren, and the only child of that union, Andrew F., died in Michigan. In 1874 he was married to Jane A. Kautzman, who was born in Logan county, Ohio, May 28, 1849, and the seven children of this union are: George B., born November 30, 1875; Thomas P., born April 13, 1878; Martin E., born January 12, 1880; Clifton W., born February 25, 1883; Irene E., born March 12, 1885; Everett L., born November 23, 1888; Goldie D., born May 23, 1893. The son Clifton is a graduate of the Ada and Lima Business School. Mr. and Mrs. Corwin are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Silver Creek, and Mr. Corwin also has membership relations with the Grange and with the fraternal order of Odd Fellows.

MRS. MATTIE H. LUDWIG is numbered among the representative citizens of Hardin county, honored for her true worth of character, and prominent as a member of some of the oldest and best known families of the county. She resides on one of the most valuable farms in Washington township, a highly improved tract of eighty acres and containing one of the finest homes in the township, and she also owns a farm of one hundred and fifty acres in Cessna township and valuable residence property in Ada. She was born in Seneca county, Ohio, March 22, 1851, to the marriage union of J. H. and Mary Hamilton, who lived and died in that county. They were the parents of three children, but only two daughters are now living, the younger being Mary A. Schaaf. John H. died at the age of fourteen months. The father died on the 3d of



ELMER MATTHEWS

December, 1893, and his wife Mary a number of years previously, on the 30th of May, 1882.

Their daughter Mattie was reared and educated at Westerville, and on the 7th of November, 1878, she was united in marriage to Elmer Matthews, with whom she lived peacefully and happily until his death on the 18th of June, 1903. He was born in Cessna township of Hardin county October 17, 1843, being also reared there and being educated at Delaware, Ohio, and agriculture was his lifelong vocation. He was an industrious farmer, a loyal citizen and a neighbor always to be depended upon in time of need, while as a husband he was true and faithful, and above all he was a true Christian gentleman, a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He was but twelve years of age when he united with that church, and he continued one of its active workers during the remainder of his life. Mr. Matthews was a son of Levi and Elizabeth (Wetzel) Matthews, and he was the younger of the two of their three children who reached mature years, the elder son being Mortimer Matthews, a resident of Kansas and he has been county surveyor of Nemaha county for thirty years. Levi Matthews, the father, was one of the first to enter government land in Hardin county, selecting his farm in Cessna township, and that land is now the property of Mrs. Ludwig. He died on the 8th of March, 1885, surviving his wife, who had died on the 3d of March, 1876.

Mrs. Matthews married in 1907 G. C. Ludwig. The home in which they reside is a model farm residence, complete in all its appointments and beautifully surrounded. This home was built by Mr. Matthews in 1884.

Ferdinand Copp, a successful farmer of Hale township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born in Logan county, Ohio, March 19, 1840, and is a son of Christian and Julia (Deisher) Copp. Christian Copp was born in Botetourt county, Virginia, in March, 1809, and died in February, 1891; his wife was born in 1812, also in Virginia, and died in February, 1894. They removed to Logan county, Ohio, where they spent three years, and then bought a farm of one hundred and fifty acres in Hale township, Hardin county, in 1841, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. Copp was a Democrat and served some time as justice of the peace; he also held other local offices. Besides Ferdinand his children were: Jenny, widow of K. Gaines, of Springfield; Mary, widow of N. Swallow, of Kenton; Harriet, wife of John P. Swallow, of Kenton; and Samantha, widow of M. Seedle, of Kenton. Mr. Copp and his wife were members of the Christian church.

Ferdinand Copp attended the public school, and later took up farming with his father. From the time his father became too old for active work he took charge of the farm, and has lived here ever since. He makes a specialty of raising cattle and sheep, in which line he is very successful.

Mr. Copp enlisted, May 2, 1864, in Company H, One Hundred Thirty-fifth Volunteers, and skirmished under the command of the Army of the Potomac one hundred days. He was mustered out in 1865. In

1862 he was a member of the celebrated "Squirrel Hunters," of Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Copp is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, of Ridgeway, Ohio. Politically he is a Democrat, and has held the office of trustee and member of the school board for many years. He is an enterprising, ambitious farmer, and highly respected in the community.

May 25, 1876, Mr. Copp married Eunice, daughter of Abraham and Ada (Drew) Haynes; she was born December 28, 1851, in Hardin county, and the family came here from Vermont. Mr. Copp and his wife have three children, Avis, Ethel and Christian H. Avis married Morton Ansley, a farmer of Hale township, and they have five children, Malcolm, Merrill, Rachel, Geneva, and Lauren. Ethel, born in 1881, married H. C. McVay, a farmer of Hale township, and they have one daughter, Pansy. Christian Haynes married Miss Nora Ansley, December 18, 1909.

R. Dolph Brown.—Among the most important residents of any community are the farmers; upon the success of agricultural operations depends the prosperity of the country. Among the successful farmers of Dudley township, Hardin county, Ohio, is R. Dolph Brown, who was born November 17, 1859, in Union county, Ohio, a son of Jacob Brown. Jacob Brown died in 1874, at the age of sixty-seven years. He came from Virginia to Union county, Ohio, with his father, as a small boy, and later they settled in Hardin county, in Dudley township, along the Scioto river. He married Naomi Arhood.

After reaching the age of sixteen years, R. Dolph Brown began working on the farm for his parents; at the death of his father, he and his brother took charge of the farm until Dolph was twenty-seven years of age, when he rented a farm twelve years and then bought his present place, where he carried on general farming and stock raising. He is a prominent citizen of the township, and actively interested in public affairs. He is well known and highly respected, and all who have had dealings with Mr. Brown are assured of his good business principles and high character. Politically he is a Democrat, although he has never cared for the emoluments of public office. He is a member of the United Brethren church, and served five years as trustee. He belongs to the Maccabees, of Hepburn, Ohio.

In 1887 Mr. Brown married, at Hepburn parsonage, Maggie Kelly, born March 27, 1863, daughter of Edward and Mary Ann (Lewis) Kelly. They were the first couple married at this parsonage. Edward Kelly was born December 30, 1821, and died in 1894. He came as a boy with his father, Benjamin Kelly, from Eastern Pennsylvania to Ohio; the father was a cooper by trade and settled in Marion county, later in Hardin county. Edward Kelly remained with his parents until his marriage; he then rented a farm in Marion county, but on account of his wife's poor health moved, in a covered wagon, to Greene county, Indiana, where he was employed for about a year teaming and freighting to different towns, and then settled in Hardin county ad bought what is now called the Old Kelly Home, which he cleared, and where the re-

mainder of his life was spent. His widow died in 1899. He was a member of the United Brethren church, and was a Republican, holding many township offices. Mr. Kelly was one of the pioneers of the county, and was widely known and highly esteemed. Besides Mrs. Brown he and his wife had children as follows: Willis, a farmer of Dudley township; Ellen, wife of Caleb Harmon, of Mt. Victory, Ohio; Emma, wife of Cyrus Dille, a farmer of Dudley township; Lewis, also a farmer of Dudley township; Edward H., a farmer of Oklahoma; and Horace, who died in the Civil war, of illness, at Chattanooga, being the oldest of the family.

To Mr. and Mrs. Brown were born children as follows: Elsie, born May 16, 1888; Clella, deceased; Mary, deceased; Amy, born August 29, 1895; Dewey, April, 1899; Harley, February 26, 1901; Mabel, July 30, 1903; Orvy, June 10, 1905; David Kelly, February 11, 1907. Mrs. Brown is an earnest member of the United Brethren church and of the Ladies Aid Society.

C. W. Wood, a successful stock farmer living near Dunkirk, and having registered horses, was born in Union county, Ohio, October 14, 1857, and is a son of Joseph E. and Ruth A. Wood, both natives of that county. The parents moved to Hardin county, Ohio, in 1872; Joseph Wood died in 1903 and his widow survives him (1909). They were parents of thirteen children, seven of whom grew to maturity, namely: C. W., Laura (deceased), J. R. (deceased), William, John I. (deceased), Howard and Hattie. Those who survive live in Hardin county.

C. W. Wood was reared and educated in Union and Hardin counties; he resided twelve years in Logan county. Until 1903 Mr. Wood carried on farming exclusively, but since that time has devoted considerable time to buying and selling stock. On his ten acre farm, which is located just south of town, on the turnpike road, he keeps a stud of four blooded horses, consisting of two Percherons, one German Coach Imported and one Wilkes road horse. He is an industrious and enterprising citizen, and stands well in the estimation of his fellows.

In 1882 Mr. Wood married Mary E. Smith; they have no children. He is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, also of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Isaac Phillips.—One of the most prominent and substantial citizens of Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, Ohio, is Isaac Phillips, who is a native of Canfield, Ohio, born September 14, 1825. He is a son of Samuel and Mary (Clive) Phillips and grandson of Joseph Phillips. Samuel Phillips was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and later moved to Wood county, Ohio, where he died, in 1880, at the age of eighty-seven years.

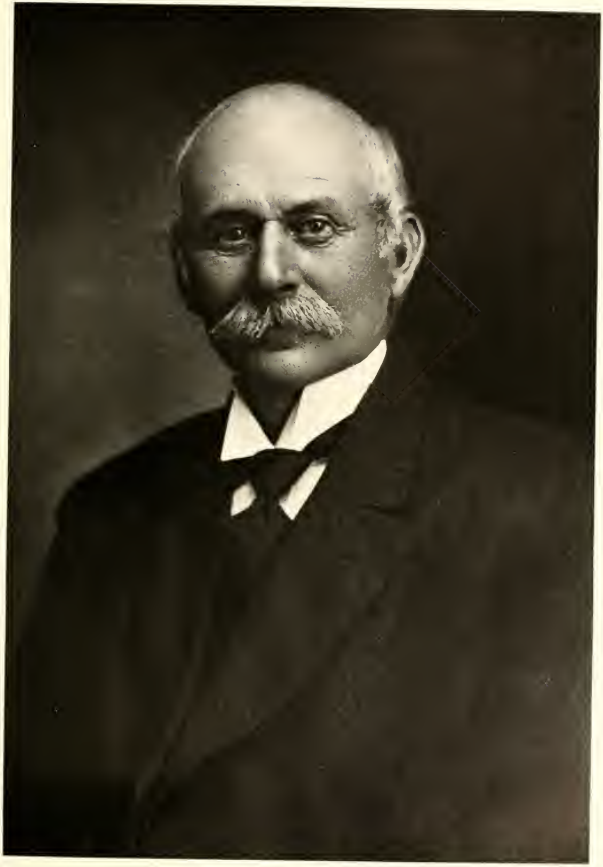
Having received a good education Isaac Phillips remained at home with his parents until he reached his majority. He then removed to Coshocton county and later to Pike county, where he remained until locating in Hardin county, in April, 1864. He cleared land adjoining his present farm and the following year brought his family to his farm.

Some years later he bought his present home of forty-six acres, on which he erected a log cabin. He cleared this land and made all possible improvements, becoming very successful. In 1901 he retired from active life. He was the youngest of a family of seven children.

In 1847 Mr. Phillips married Esther Martha McKee, who was born May 14, 1831, the second of five children, daughter of Joseph and Eliza (Leach) McKee, of Coshocton county, and granddaughter of William and Martha (Mordick) McKee, of Pennsylvania. Both Mr. Phillips and his wife are the sole survivors of their respective families. They are the oldest couple living in Taylor Creek township, Mr. Phillips being eighty-four and his wife seventy-nine, and both have given up work. They are well known in the community and stand high in the respect and esteem of all who know them. They remain on the farm and their youngest daughter keeps house and cares for them. Both belong to the United Presbyterian church. He is a Democrat in political affiliations and cast his first vote for President Buchanan. During the last year Mr. Phillips has had the great misfortune to lose his sight.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Phillips are: Eliza Ellen, born August 20, 1848, wife of Dan Beltz, died leaving six children; Mary Elizabeth, born November 17, 1849, married William Stevenson, of Taylor Creek township, and they have four children; Joseph McKee, born February 25, 1852, married Laura Shockey, lives near Walnut Grove, and has six children; Hulda, born February 5, 1854, married Lem Liles, and they have three children; Uriah Burton, deceased, married Cynthia Burrell and they had two children; Louise, married John Pyers, of Taylor Creek township, and they have no children; Melissa Jane, born April 14, 1860, married E. McLain, and died leaving one child; Isaac V., born April 15, 1862, married Eliza Moon, and both died, leaving three children; Martha Belle, born April 29, 1864, married Elmer Griffis, of DeGraf, Ohio, and they have three children; Jacqueline, born May 16, 1867, married J. Chamberlain, of Zanesfield, Ohio, and they have two children; William Hunter, born February 6, 1871, lives in Taylor Creek township, married Etta Roberts, and they have four children; and May, born April 14, 1876, remains at home, as before mentioned. Mrs. Phillips and daughter May adopted a grandchild Vinal, born August 12, 1897, now deceased.

W. K. Zehner is one of the honored pioneers of Hardin county, where he has resided since 1846. He traces his ancestry to the fatherland of Germany, the birthplace of his great-grandfather, but coming to the United States he became a loyal citizen of his adopted country and took an active part in the war of 1812. Among his children was a son Peter, who was born after his father's emigration to America, and his children included Reuben Zehner, born in Pennsylvania. Reuben Zehner purchased in an early day one hundred and sixty acres of land in Washington township, Hardin county, Ohio, receiving a tax title to the same, as did all pioneers, and the crudest of log cabins, with blankets for doors and windows, sheltered him and his family until more convenient quarters could be prepared. The simple residence which he soon



W. K. Zehnder

completed served as their home for twenty-five years, and with the help of his sons he had succeeded in clearing about two-thirds of his farm when death claimed him on the 26th of January, 1881. He was born on the 15th of September, 1806, and his wife, nee Sophia Klingerman, born in Pennsylvania August 27, 1812, died June 23, 1880. Seven children were born to them, namely: Mary A., Caroline, Cordilla and Sophia, all deceased, William K., Michael, also deceased, and Jesse. Reuben Zehner was by trade a shoemaker and was also a singing teacher, and a man of delicate constitution, but of the most sterling characteristics and these qualities have been instilled into his children.

William K. Zehner was born in Pennsylvania in 1840, and coming with his parents to Hardin county when six years of age he was educated in its public schools and in his early life began farming its land. On reaching his twenty-fifth year he bought one hundred acres of its virgin soil, and as did his father, built him a log cabin and began to prepare his farm for cultivation. His home is now a modern one, showing thrift and artistic taste, and his land is valuably improved. He has served his township in several of its offices, including those of supervisor, trustee and school director, and has in many ways been prominently identified with the life of his community.

Mr. Zehner has been twice married, wedding first, on December 27, 1865, Miss Lucretia Dickson, and of the nine children which were born to them the following reached mature years: Nora E., the deceased wife of A. J. Garmon; Amanda J.; Florence, the present wife of Mr. Garmon; James R., who died September 29, 1909; Lydia S.; Carrie E., a music teacher, wife of Charles Nosker; and Sarah E., wife of M. Nowlan. Mrs. Zehner died on March 6, 1886, at the age of thirty-nine years, and on the 29th of December, 1889, Mr. Zehner married for his second wife Christine Ann Garlinger, and a son, William J., has been born to them. Mrs. Zehner was born in Hancock county, Ohio, April 4, 1854, a daughter of George and Elizabeth Garlinger, who were among the pioneers of Hancock county. Mr. Garlinger died with cholera. Mr. Zehner is a worthy member of the Methodist Protestant church, in which he has served in nearly all of the offices, and he is also a member of the order of Patrons of Husbandry.

Joshua D. Virden, a prosperous farmer of Dudley township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born in Marion county, May 21, 1852, and is a son of Theodore W. and Sarah (Davis) Virden. Theodore Virden was born in Delaware about 1816 and died December 5, 1899. He came with his father, Alson Virden, to Marion county, Ohio, when eighteen years of age. Alson Virden, a carpenter by trade, married Mary Wilson, and after his wife's death he removed with his family to Marion county, Theodore being the oldest in the family. Alson Virden having poor health gave up working at his trade and removed to Hardin county, and there entering one hundred and sixty acres of land, where he died at the age of eighty years. He had cleared his land and erected a house.

Theodore Virden was the oldest of six children, and followed farm-

ing on the old homestead until he was twenty-three years of age. He bought a farm of eighty acres in Marion county, later adding land until he owned four hundred acres. He carried on general farming making a specialty of stock-raising, and remained on his land until his death. He was married in October, 1830, to Sarah, daughter of William H. Davis, and she died September 17, 1877, at the age of fifty-seven years. William H. Davis was born in Maryland in 1781, and came to Ohio in 1803, settling first in Chillicothe. He was a cabinet-maker by trade, and served in the war of 1812. His wife Marian Johnson, was born in 1797 and died in 1865, having survived her husband who died in 1847. Mr. Davis' father, Joshua Davis, was killed in the Revolutionary war. When Mr. Virden was married he had but fifty cents in money and began housekeeping in an old log cabin. He made his money in his industry and thrift, and became very successful, so that at the time of his death he owned a fine property. He and his wife had children as follows: William A., a farmer of Marion county; Mary E., wife of Ezra Umpher, of Marion; Charles C., a farmer of Marion county; Samuel T., of California, where he has an orange grove; Thomas D., a retired farmer of Larue, Ohio; Joshua D., Robert H., of Missouri; and Dr. Milton H., of Columbus, Ohio. Mr. Virden held several local offices, and was a prominent man in public affairs.

Joshua D. Virden attended school three months a year and helped carry on his father's farm. After he reached his majority he began farming on his own account and when twenty-five years of age bought forty acres, on which he lived until 1887. He then removed to Hardin county and purchased his present one hundred-acre farm. This farm was only partly cleared, so that he had to make all improvements,, and now has one of the most modern residence in the northern part of Dudley township, where he carries on general farming, and makes a specialty of stock-raising. He is much interested in good horses, of which he has raised a great many. He has added forty acres to his farm and has erected substantial and comfortable buildings. He has now practically retired from the active work of his farm but takes charge of it still.

Mr. Virden is a member of the Knights of Pythias and has always taken an active part in public affairs. He served six years as trustee of Dudley township and is an ardent Democrat. He is well known in the community, where his good qualities and high character are appreciated. He is well liked and has a host of friends.

November 18, 1873, Mr. Virden married Frances Margaret Anselman, who was born in Marion county, Ohio, May 10, 1853, daughter of Charles Anselman, a native of Germany, who came to America with his parents when three years old. The parents, John Philip and Frances Anselman lived in Marion county many years, and then removed to Hardin county and spent the remainder of their lives with their children, the father passing away at the age of one hundred years. John Philip Anselman was an officer in the German army and served seven years in the war. Charles Anselman served one hundred days in the Civil war. He was an active business man and sold machinery, mowers,

John B. Fletcher.

reapers etc., except in harvest time when he returned home to care for his crops. He married Anna Felton, also a native of Germany, who located in Marion county, Ohio, as a child, with her parents. The family located in Hardin county in 1869. She was born March 8, 1826 and died September, 1884, at the age of seventy-eight years. Mr. Anselman died June 28, 1904. Mrs. Virden was one of eight children, the others being: Katie Bishop, Charles, John Joseph, Sarah Wood, Elizabeth S., Clara Banning. Her mother was for fifty years a member of the Christian church. Mrs. Virden is a member of the Methodist church and also belongs to the Pythian Sisters, being inner guard of the lodge of Hepburn. Mr. Virden and his wife have one son, Lloyd Milton, who was born May 13, 1883, and he is living at home. He is a graduate of Kenton high school and Ada University and helps with the work of the farm. Being a lover of stock-raising and especially of good horses the farm had the tendency to make a farmer of him. Lloyd has the pleasure of owning two of the best bred road mares in the country, each standard bred and registered and have lots of speed. These mares Goldie Nu and Lady Mansfield are used as brood mares, and have proved themselves producers. He also breeds English Shire horses in which he has been quite successful and has a team at present for which he has refused six hundred dollars.

In 1907 and 1908 wishing to see the talked of California, Lloyd made a three months tour of the South and West, being in seventeen states and once out of the Unietd States in that time.

J. B. Fletcher, merchant tailor, Kenton, Ohio, has been identified with the business activity of this place since he was a youth in his teens; has figured prominently in the affairs of the town, and has been the recipient of honors from his fellow citizens.

Mr. Fletcher is a native of England. He was born in Lincolnshire, November 23, 1847, son of William and Marie (Eldridge) Fletcher, English people, and with them came to America in 1854. Arrived in this country, the Fletcher family settled in Washington township, Hardin county, Ohio, where for a time the father was employed as a contractor on the Pennsylvania Railroad. Later he ran a hotel and store at what was then North Washington, now Dola, and still later he settled on a farm, where his last years were spent. He died at the age of sixty-seven years and his wife, at thirty-three. While a resident of Washington township, William Fletcher at different times filled local offices. In his family were nine children, three daughters and six sons, J. B. being the eldest.

J. B. Fletcher started out to make his own way in the world when he was fifteen, and it was then that he came to Kenton. Here his first work was as a clerk in the grocery of Crowley & Dickson, with whom he remained two years. Afterward he was for several years employed as a clerk in other stores (A. B. Ingersoll, B. F. & C. Schwartz, J. M. Brimon), where he gained a varied business experience and a knowledge of human nature, which fitted him to embark in an enterprise of his own. In partnership with Adolph Fullerton, under the firm name of Fuller-

ton & Fletcher, he made his first business venture as a merchant tailor and dealer in ready-made clothes. Two years later the firm became Fletcher & Carry. This partnership continued until 1876, when they sold the business. That same year Mr. Fletcher engaged in business under his own name, which he has since continued.

During his long residence here, Mr. Fletcher has been active in Democratic politics and twice, in 1900 and 1902, was the choice for mayor in which office he served acceptably two terms. In 1907, he was elected a member of the Board of Public Service, of which he was elected president. On December 16, 1909, he was appointed Director of Public Service for a term of two years, beginning January 1, 1910.

Mr. Fletcher became a charter member of Robert Bruce Lodge No. 101, Knights of Pythias, September 4, 1876, and a charter member of Kenton Division, Uniform Rank Knights of Pythias in December, 1883. April 29, 1896 he was appointed assistant adjutant general of the Ohio Brigade Uniformed Rank K. of P. by General James C. Howe and served until the death of General Howe which occurred November 1, 1897. For eighteen years he has been a member of the B. P. O. E., No. 157, and in both this order and in the K. of P. he has filled all the chairs.

June 13, 1872, Mr. Fletcher married Miss Mary A. Hoon, a native of Ohio and a daughter of A. S. and Jeannette Hoon, and they have two daughters: Ellen, wife of R. C. Caples, traffic manager for the New York Central R. R., New York City; and Kate, wife of Dr. H. D. Belt, a practicing physician of Kenton.

Curtis Avra Robinson.—The representative of a family that has been for many years intimately identified with the annals of Hardin county, Curtis Avra Robinson, of Cessna township, is also widely known as one of the upbuilders of the town of Alger, he and his father, the late James H. Robinson, having erected the first building in Alger, that is now occupied by the Phillips Hotel. They also established the first mercantile house in that place, conducting a general store there for eight years, while for seventeen years Curtis Avra Robinson owned and conducted a livery business, it being the first enterprise of the kind in Alger. He was born April 29, 1868, at Marseilles, Wyandot county, Ohio, of pioneer ancestry, his grandparents, Peter A. and Anna E. Robinson, having been among the early settlers of Hardin county, Ohio.

Born near the city of Auburn, New York, May 7, 1839, James H. Robinson was but three years of age, when, in 1842, he was brought by his parents to Goshen township, Hardin county, where he grew to man's estate. During the Civil war, he responded cheerfully to his country's call, enlisting as a private in Company A, Eighty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in which he served until February 9, 1862, when he was honorably discharged on account of physical disability. On October 13, 1864, having regained his former vigor, he again enlisted in his old company, with which he remained until the close of the war, receiving his discharge on July 24, 1865. He lived for a few years after his marriage in Wyandot county, but returned to Hardin county, and in the spring of 1883 located in Alger as one of its original settlers, and built the

property now occupied by George Phillips. For a number of years he was successfully engaged in mercantile pursuits, conducting a grocery. Retiring from active business on account of ill health, he built a substantial residence on East Lee street, and there lived until his death, January 23, 1902. He was held in high esteem as a man of honor and worth, and served his fellow-townsmen in many offices of trust and responsibility, in the administration of public affairs being careful and conscientious. At the time of his death he was serving his second term as mayor of the city. On June 4, 1864, he married Lydia A. Baker, who was born August 4, 1844, near the city of Mansfield, Richland county, Ohio, and is now living in Kenton, Ohio. Two children were born of their union, namely: Curtis Avra, and Harvey W. of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

After leaving the district schools Curtis Avra Robinson attended the public schools of Kenton for a time, acquiring a practical business education. For a number of years he was engaged in the livery business at Alger, but he has always been more or less interested in agriculture, and is now numbered among the foremost farmers and stock-raisers of Hardin county. He owns a valuable farm of one hundred and eighty-eight acres on section fourteen, Cessna township, and in addition to having property in Alger, including a business house, and two dwelling houses, he is a stock-holder in the new J. W. Kirts Company department store at Alger.

Mr. Robinson married, April 29, 1890, Ruah A. Shadley, who was born in Marion township, Hardin county, Ohio, October 24, 1869, on the farm on which her father, W. A. Shadley, was born and reared, it having been entered from the government by her grandfather, Sampson Shadley. Her father is now a resident of Tennessee. Mrs. Robinson's mother was Mary E. McElhaney and she died June 3, 1876, at the age of thirty-three years, eleven months and seven days. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson have one child, Parker Avra Robinson, who was born, October 26, 1902, near Delta, Ohio. Mrs. Robinson is a woman of culture and refinement, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically Mr. Robinson exercises his right of franchise in favor of the Republican party, and fraternally he is a charter member of Alger Lodge No. 751, K. of P., and of Kenton Lodge No. 157, B. P. O. E.

John Scott Sloan, a prominent farmer and stockman of Taylor Creek township, was born on the farm where his father lives, April 30, 1883. He is a son of Robert and Ada V. (Rice) Sloan, the former also a farmer. Robert Sloan was born January 5, 1858, and is a son of John Sloan, who died July 6, 1883, at the age of sixty-one years. John Sloan and his wife, Margaret, came to the United States from Ireland, and settled in Hardin county, Ohio, purchasing the present Sloan farm. He purchased this large farm in 1866 and settled in what was then the forest and he built a log house and began clearing the land. He enlisted in the Union Army and served nine months. Mr. Sloan was a member of the United Presbyterian church. He and his wife had four children and besides Robert one other is still living, Emma, unmarried, living at Belle Center, Ohio.

The childhood and youth of Robert Sloan was spent on a farm and he received a common school education. He worked for his father and lived with his parents until his majority. He has lived about thirty years on his present farm and until his marriage his sister was his housekeeper. He makes a specialty of breeding and raising stock and has made all possible improvements, so that now he has one of the most modern homes in the township. He is a member of the United Presbyterian church of Silver Creek and politically is a Republican. Mr. Sloan has served as township supervisor.

In 1882 Robert Sloan married Ada V. Rice, who was born February 9, 1862, daughter of Robert Rice, who died in 1903, at the age of seventy years. He removed to Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, from Muskingum county, Ohio, and was a farmer all his life. Mr. Rice married Mary Ann Koons, who died in December, 1906, at the age of sixty-six, and was a daughter of William and Martha (Shepard) Koons, pioneers of Hardin county. Besides Mrs. Sloan her parents had two other children, namely: Clara May, wife of Judge Roberts, a farmer of Taylor Creek township, and Roy C., a farmer of Huntsville. Robert Rice was a son of John and Eliza (Seaton) Rice and grandson of Clement Rice. Eliza Seaton was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, February 8, 1812, daughter of Robert and Nancy Seaton, who came to Ohio from Pennsylvania before the war of 1812, in which Mr. Seaton served. Robert Rice's father, John Rice, was justice of the peace for years, also served as assessor of the township, and was the Whig nominee at one time, for probate judge, but was defeated. He died December 20, 1861.

The brothers and sisters of John S. Sloan are: Mary Jane, born in 1884, does dressmaking at home; Lloyd Judson, born in 1886, married Cleo Shindwolf; Paul Raymond, born in 1887, at home; Alta, born in 1892, at home; Grace Irene, born in 1895; Elmer Leroy, born in 1898 and Frank Marshall, born in 1900.

John S. Sloan spent his boyhood on a farm, attended the district school and afterward attended school one year in Kenton. He then went to Ada University two terms and for four years in Silver Creek drove a huxter wagon. Since that time he has devoted his attention to farming and stock-raising, and makes a specialty of high grade stock, having three thoroughbred hogs, O. I., C. and Dew Rock.

February 20, 1906, Mr. Sloan married Marie Hannah Breidenbaugh, born June 10, 1888, daughter of John and Barbara (Reffer) Breidenbaugh. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Sloan, Nicholas Reffer and Catherine Reffer, nee Lintz, were born in Albach, Hessen, Germany, the date of his birth being February 25, 1829, and that of his wife September 22, 1827. Before coming to America, Mr. Reffer was a miller, but after coming here (in 1853), he became a farmer and lived south of Kenton on what was known as the old Shirk place, until he built a fine frame house on Taylor Creek pike, three miles from Kenton, where he and his wife lived the remainder of their lives. Mr. Reffer died June 17, 1894, and his wife July 6, 1898. To them thirteen children were born, all of whom are living except Mary, who

S A Crozier Mrs Alice Crozier

died June 25, 1909, and Barbara, who died December 7, 1899. Barbara Reffer, Mrs. Sloan's mother, was born May 23, 1859, and married John Breidenbaugh March 16, 1882. He was born in Grant, Ohio, December 15, 1860. They conducted a grocery in Grant until 1887, when they moved to a farm east of Grant, where Mr. Breidenbaugh died December 7, 1898. To them three children were born: Marie, Alta and Teana.

Mr. Sloan and his wife have one daughter, Catherine Virginia, born June 27, 1907, who is the only grandchild of the Sloan family. Mr. Sloan is a member of the United Presbyterian church of Silver Creek, and also belongs to the local Grange. Politically he is a Republican and takes an active interest in public affairs. He was elected in 1909 for a first term of two years in the office of township treasurer. He is an enterprising and industrious farmer and has been very successful in all his undertakings. He is well known in the county and highly respected.

Samuel A. Crozier has during many years been numbered among the influential and representative agricultural residents of Washington township, but he has been distinctively the architect of his own fortunes and is numbered among the ever honored class of "self-made men." He was one of the six children born to Daker Crozier and a Miss Boyd, both of Irish birth, namely: Robert, deceased, James, Sarah, Mary, Robert, and Samuel A. Daker Crozier owned at one time seventy-five acres of land in Logan county, Ohio, but he finally returned to his native land.

Samuel A. Crozier, born in Logan county, Ohio, in 1860, was left motherless when but five years of age, and in his early youth he was thrown upon his own resources. He was reared and educated in the county of his nativity, and agriculture has proved his life's occupation. Forty acres of his present homestead he has owned since 1882, the remaining forty having been purchased in 1902. When he became the owner of the first tract it was in an unsightly and unimproved state, containing a little log cabin which served as his home for a number of years, but with his family he now enjoys the luxury of a comfortable brick residence and splendid farm buildings. He married in 1884 Miss Alice, a daughter of Levi and Almina Hatcher, and two sons blessed their marriage union, James C. and Ira C., but the older one met death in 1904 by a runaway team. He was a young man of the greatest promise, and was loved and honored wherever known. Mrs. Crozier was born in Logan county in 1865, one of the three children of Levi and Almina Hatcher, James, deceased, Alice and Charles, but the daughter is the only representative of the family in Hardin county. Mr. Crozier is a member of the fraternal order of Odd Fellows. Mrs. Crozier belongs to the Methodist Protestant church.

William C. Kahler, a prominent farmer of Pleasant township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born in the township where he now resides, in 1883, son of William and Mary (Bloom) Kahler, and grandson of Conrad Kahler. Conrad was one of the pioneers of Hardin county, and there made his fortune. He was a native of Germany, and upon

his arrival in the county, Kenton was only a small village; there were few settlers in the neighborhood, and land was plenty. The only capital he had was his ambition, energy and pluck, as his cash in hand consisted of only ten cents, and aside from the clothes he wore his wardrobe was contained in a handkerchief which was slung over his back. After living a short time in his adopted country he began to prosper, and soon desired to avail himself of the splendid opportunities all around him; he lost no time, but invested his savings to good advantage, as soon as he had worked long enough to obtain a little money, and in time became the owner of 700 acres of land. He also engaged in the manufacture of brick, building up an extensive business in this line, and carried on this enterprise a number of years. The two large dwelling houses now on the family homestead were built in 1879, from bricks of his own manufacture, and he also made the brick used in many large buildings of the community. Not only did Conrad Kahler acquire wealth, but he became an influential citizen, and served at one time as commissioner of Hardin county. His large estate was on the edge of the village of Kenton, and extended three miles north of it. He and his wife, who was Hannah Meyers, a native of Germany, were members of the German Reformed church. They had children as follows: Edward, William, Henry, Emma and Minnie, all deceased; they were all born in Pleasant township.

William Kahler was born in 1858, on his father's farm near Kenton, and inherited his share of the estate; he improved this land, and held it until his death, July 27, 1887. His widow, whose maiden name was Mary Bloom, is also a native of Pleasant township, and survives him; she was born October 26, 1862. They were parents of two children, Eva deceased, and William C.

William C. Kahler was reared in his native township, and received his education in the public schools. When old enough he began working on his father's farm. Upon attaining his majority he moved to his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres of first-class farming land. He is a successful farmer, and carries on general farming in a scientific and efficient manner. He is well known in the community, where his entire life has been spent, and has many friends.

In 1907 Mr. Kahler married Nettie, daughter of John and Margaret Deucker, natives of Germany and Hardin county, Ohio, respectively. Mrs. Kahler was born in Buck township, Hardin county, in 1888. John Deucker was born in 1853, and emigrated to the United States in 1870; he was married in Hardin county, and owned two hundred acres of land in Buck township, where he lived until 1897 and then removed to Cleveland, Ohio. He and his wife had six children, all born in the county, namely: William, Karl, Mary, Emma, Minnie, and Nettie. Mr. Kahler and his wife have one daughter, Madeline M.

L. D. Sells, D. D. S., has been engaged in the practice of dentistry in Ada, Ohio, since 1881, and is well known and held in high esteem here. Dr. Sells was born in Vinton, Benton county, Iowa, in 1860, son of George W. and Anna (McCoy) Sells, natives of Columbus, Ohio. In early life George W. Sells was a merchant at Dublin, near Columbus,

but later was a commercial traveler. He moved to Iowa in 1855 and took up his residence at Vinton in Benton county, where he made his home until the fall of 1867, when he returned to Ohio and settled at Ada in Hardin county. After they came to Ada, his wife engaged in the milliner business, which she conducted five years. He traveled until well advanced in years, and died here at the age of seventy-nine. She is still living, spending her summers in Ada, and winters in Chicago with her son, L. B. In their family were three sons and one daughter; the daughter is deceased.

L. D. Sells, the youngest of the family, was seven years old when they came to Ada, and here he was educated in the Ohio Northern University. He prepared himself for the practice of his profession, at Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he graduated in 1880, and the year following his graduation he opened an office in Ada, where he has since conducted a successful practice in dentistry.

July 24, 1881, he married Miss Lizzie Cline, a native of Knox county, Ohio, and a daughter of Phillip Cline, one of the early settlers of that county. They have three sons and one daughter, namely: Fred, of Utica, Ohio, and Morris, Paul and Ruth, at home.

Politically, the doctor is a Republican, and has always taken a commendable interest in local affairs. He was twice elected and served two terms as a member of the City Council. Fraternally, he is identified with the Masonic Order, the Knights of Pythias, and the Odd Fellows. His religious creed is that of the Presbyterian church, of which for years he has been a worthy member.

R. S. Shanks, descends from perhaps one of the oldest and best known families of Liberty township. His grandfather on the paternal side, Thomas Shanks, came from Crawford county, Ohio, to Hardin county in 1832, entering here two hundred acres of the government land and building thereon a cabin, the typical dwelling of pioneer days. He lived principally on the products of the forest, for game was then in abundance, and in due time his wild land showed signs of productiveness, and to his original purchase he in time added eighty acres more. His wife was before marriage Susannah Pence, and thirteen children were born to them, Samuel, Henry, Thomas, John, William, Jackson, Sarah, Nancy, Barbara, Rachael, Elizabeth, Anna and Jane. Both Thomas and Susannah Shanks were born in Pennsylvania and were of German origin, and Thomas died in the year 1871. He was one hundred and one years old at the time of his death. His wife Susannah died in 1860.

John Shanks, one of the thirteen children, was born in Richland county, Ohio, in 1821, and was eleven years of age when his parents came to Hardin county. He remained with his father some little time after his marriage, assisting him in clearing his land, and in 1849 he purchased eighty acres of wild land in Liberty township, and as he cleared and improved in turn each subsequent purchase he kept increasing his land holdings until he now owns an estate of four hundred acres, while each of his two sons owns eighty acres in their own name, thus making in this

family five hundred and sixty acres of the choice farming land of Hardin county. John Shanks enjoys good health and is unusally vigorous for a man of his years, for he has reached the eighty-eight milestone on life's journey, and he is revered as one of the pioneers of Hardin county. During three years he served as a county commissioner, and in 1864, answering the call of the north, he enlisted as a private in Company I, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, for service in the Civil war, and was honorably discharged in the same year. He is now a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He married in 1846 Miss Jane Mustard, and of the seven children which blessed their marriage union only two sons survive, the younger being J. H. Shanks.

R. S. Shanks, the elder of these two surviving sons, is now one of the well known agriculturists of Liberty township, where he has owned a splendidly cultivated farm of eighty acres since 1876, and this land was purchased by his father in 1863. He was born in Liberty township January 1, 1851, and he was reared and educated here, attending its district schools and also the Ada schools. His first vocation in life was teaching, and he followed that profession for twenty-five years with gratifying success. In 1872 he was happily married to Miss Mary C., a daughter of Abram and Anna E. Ream, and their three children are William C., Frances L. and Anna E. The son married in 1897 Miss Clara Cronbaugh, while the elder daughter married Mr. M. Runser in 1906 and the younger married M. D. Cronbaugh on the 27th of June, 1905. Mrs. Shanks was born in Stark county, Ohio, October 5, 1851. The family are worthy members of the Presbyterian church, and Mr. Shanks is also associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and with the Patrons of Husbandry.

Joseph Powell, a successful farmer and stockman of Marion township, Hardin county, Ohio, is a native of the township, born March 2, 1850, a son of William and Nancy (Lyons) Powell. William Powell was born in England, and came with his father, Joseph Powell, to the United States, in 1814, when four years of age. Joseph Powell and his family settled in Marion township, and here he purchased land and spent the remainder of his life. He cleared his land and became a prominent and successful farmer. He was interested in the cause of progress and advancement, and was one of the founders of the Methodist Episcopal church, of Huntersville. Joseph Powell had four children, of whom one survives, Benjamin, of Kansas.

The childhood of William Powell was spent on his father's farm and he attended the public schools. He married and reared his family in Marion township. His seven children were: Elizabeth, deceased, wife of John Kiester; Sarah, wife of William Moore, of Liberty township; Joseph; George, deceased; Mary, deceased; James H., of Kenton; Ohio, and John W., of Marion township.

Joseph Powell was reared on his father's farm in Marion township and attended the district school until he was about nineteen years of age, also helping with the work of carrying on the farm. He then directed his attention to farming until he was twenty-three years of age.

P. W. Young and Family

In 1873 Mr. Powell married Olive E. Henry, who was born in Richland county, Ohio, and died February 27, 1900. They were parents of children as follows: one child, who died in infancy; William H., born September 15, 1875, married Eva Guider and they live in Liberty township; O. C., born June 29, 1877, married Frances Huggett and they live in Washington township; Estella M., born February 10, 1879, wife of Charles Matthews; Verna, born December 3, 1880, unmarried and living at home; and William H. The last two have been school teachers. All have received good educations and are intelligent, useful men and women.

At the time of the death of the wife and mother the following lines were written in the paper in her memory: "Olive Esmarilla Henry was born in Richland county, Ohio, August 14, 1854, and departed this life February 27, 1900, aged forty-five years six months and thirteen days. She came with her parents to Hardin county, Ohio, September 9, 1863, where she has since resided. She united with the Methodist Episcopal church at Huntersville when eleven years of age, and has remained a faithful and consistent christian the remainder of her life, endeavoring to do the will of her Master. She leaves a husband, four children, three sisters, a brother and a host of relatives and friends to mourn her loss. Her body was laid to rest in the Huntersville cemetery. She was spoken of by all as a noble woman."

Politically Mr. Powell is a Republican and he has served as township trustee. He owns eighty-seven acres of section one and has a well improved farm, equipped with modern machinery. He is an industrious, progressive citizen, well known in the community, where he is highly respected.

P. W. Young has been a resident of Washington township, Hardin county, Ohio, since 1870, and since 1873 has owned and occupied his present farm of one hundred sixty acres. This place was formerly known as the "Kreidler farm." Since Mr. Young came into possession of it he has cleared and placed under cultivation a hundred and twelve acres. He remodeled the buildings that were already here and built others, and in a general way beautified his surroundings. Today he has one of the best farms in his locality.

Mr. Young is a native of Ohio. He was born in Knox county, in 1845, son of Eli and Amelia (Rush) Young, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of New Jersey. In their family were seven children: Freeman, Louis, Emeline, Clara, Sarah, Hannah, and P. W., the last named being the only one of the number to take up his abode in Hardin county. The first twenty years of his life were passed in his native county and there he received a common school education. Then he went to Iowa. Two years later, we find him in Illinois, where he bought a farm and where he made his home for a period of five years. In 1870 he returned to Ohio, and since that date, as already stated, he has been a resident of Hardin county.

The same year he purchased his farm, 1873, he was united in marriage to Miss Emily J. Vaughn, who was born in 1853 in Marion county, Ohio, daughter of Thomas Vaughn. The fruits of their union are two

sons and five daughters, namely: Thomas, a local preacher; Freeman, a lawyer of Colorado, and professor in a high school in Ft. Morgan; Catherine, now the wife of E. Shadley; Corrinna, wife of F. Westervelt; Icy, wife of E. Hayes; Zella; and Maude, who is the wife of Leroy Turner, a farmer in Marion.

During his residence in Washington township, Mr. Young has always taken a deep interest in the welfare of his community. For twelve years he has been a member of the school board, and he has also filled the office of supervisor. The family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church.

JOHN MORGAN JONES.—The late John Morgan Jones, who was a successful farmer of Hardin county and for a few years prior to his death lived retired in the city of Kenton, was born in Knox county, Ohio, November 6, 1832. Mr. Jones was a son of John and Sarah (Bradbury) Jones, the former from New Jersey and the latter from Pennsylvania. They were early settlers of Knox county, where Mr. Jones followed farming, and about 1850 they located in Hardin county, where they bought a farm and spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. Jones was born in 1800 and died in 1866, at the age of sixty years, and his wife who was born in 1818, died in 1875. She survived him a number of years.

John Morgan Jones spent his youth on his father's farm, attending the common school winters and helping with the work of the farm as soon as old enough. While still under age he taught two years in Knox county, and after the removal of the family to Hardin county taught a few terms in the latter county. He was an ambitious and hard-working young man, and made the most of his opportunities for education and culture. His habits were commendable, and he was ever a home man.

In 1855 Mr. Jones married Elizabeth M. Gillen, daughter of Edward and Margaret (King) Gillen, both natives of New Jersey, who came west and settled in Hardin county in the fall of 1853. They bought a farm near Washington, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, and here improved the land and developed a fine farm. The Kings were one of the old families of New Jersey.

After his marriage Mr. Jones purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, south of Dunkirk. He subsequently bought and sold a number of farms and finally purchased the one of ninety-two and a half acres a half mile from Kenton which is now conducted by his son. In 1902 Mr. Jones and his wife removed to Kenton and made a permanent residence there. They became parents of ten children, of whom six now survive. Mr. Jones died in 1906, mourned by his family and a large number of friends. He was a man of good principles and high character, whose dealings with his fellows were distinguished by honesty and uprightness. Mr. Jones was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and upheld the principles of the Republican party. While living on this farm he served three years as justice of the peace. He was a successful farmer and made several good investments. His widow still resides in Kenton. She is enjoying good health and her fine home.

William M. Gilmore.—The late William M. Gilmore, of Kenton, Ohio, was one of the most enterprising business men of the city, where he spent his entire life. He was a native of Kenton, born in 1849, and a son of William and Martha (Alexander) Gilmore, the former born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, January 17, 1825. William Gilmore located in Kenton in 1846, and spent the remainder of his life there. He walked from his home through the mountains to Pittsburg, taking a boat from there to Cincinnati, and as there was then no railroad, he walked from Springfield to Kenton. He was one of the pioneer business men of Kenton and was for thirty years a successful boot and shoe merchant. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and an influential citizen.

William M. Gilmore acquired his education in the public schools and learned the trade of jeweler, following the same all his life. He owned a fine jewelery store, running an establishment on the south side of the square for a time and afterward locating on the west side, where he owned a store at the time of his death.

In 1879 Mr. Gilmore married Mary Louise Freschkon, daughter of Coonrod and Elizabeth (Strahm) Freschkon, both of whom were born in Germany and came to America in youth. They were married in this country, settling near Patterson, Hardin county, where the remainder of their days was spent. The union of Mr. Gilmore and his wife was without issue. Mr. Gilmore was an industrious, hardworking man, who had good business judgement and was very successful in his line of business. He became a well-known and influential citizen, who had a large circle of friends. His high character and honesty were highly appreciated. Politically he was a Democrat. Mr. Gilmore died on December 30, 1899.

Rev. Benjamin Waddle, D. D.—One of the men who took a prominent part in affairs in Hardin county during his life was Benjamin Waddle, now deceased. Mr. Waddle was born near Wheeling, West Virginia, in June, 1802, and was a son of William and Elizabeth (Neilson) Waddle, the latter a descendant of Thomas Neilson, a member of the Continental congress, living in Pennsylvania. The family later moved to Virginia, locating in that state about 1795. Both William Waddle and his wife were born during the American Revolution, and his father served in the battle of Bunker Hill, and was a talented musician. Three of Mrs. Waddle's brothers moved to New Orleans at an early day, becoming prominent attorneys.

The early education of Benjamin Waddle was received in private schools, and when he was twenty-one years of age he decided to study for the ministry. His father wished to give him his share of the family estate to enable him to attend college, but he refused the offer and determined to work his own way through school. He began teaching school, attended college in Wheeling and completed his training at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, being ordained a United Presbyterian minister in Perry county, Ohio, in 1829. Proceeding to New Concord, he set to work to establish a Presbyterian college, completing his project in 1837 and be-

coming the first president of the institution. He was a president professor in this college for a period of twenty years, and is remembered affectionately by all who came under his charge and had the benefit of his advice and training. This school to-day ranks high among the educational institutions of its kind in the country and is under the care of the United Presbyterian church.

In 1859 Rev. Waddle removed to Hardin county, where he took charge in December of a congregation, enlarging the membership of the church and serving with great distinction and ability. He was a man of great earnestness and was generously gifted in qualifications for his great work in life. His high character was appreciated by all who dealt with him and his eloquence greatly admired. He held several offices of importance and served creditably in all of them. He was for twelve years county school examiner and was the founder of the county institute. Rev. Waddle was sent to represent his district in the state legislature about 1872-3, and was offered the renomination but refused to accept same. He gave the public freely of his time and talents, and his public work will long be remembered.

In 1829 Rev. Waddle married Martha A., daughter of William and Margaret (Herdman) Glenn, the former born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and the latter a native of Ireland, who came to the United States at the age of seven years. Her grandparents bought land near Pittsburg for the very low price of six dollars an acre in 1800 and the city of Carnegie is built on the Glenn estate. Benjamin Waddle and his wife were the parents of five children (two sons and three daughters), of whom three still survive. One son, Benjamin N., enlisted at Cadiz, Ohio, in the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Ohio, and served three years in the Civil war. He was taken prisoner at the battle of the Wilderness and sent to Andersonville prison. Being a very fine singer, he soon won warm friends and conducted a notable meeting in which he made many converts. Shortly after this the famous spring was discovered and called "Providence Spring." Mr. Waddle died soon after his release. The other children of Rev. Waddle and his wife were: Mrs. Anna M. Campbell, Miss Lizzie, the only surviving member of the family living at Kenton and W. G. Waddle, a minister of the United Presbyterian church at New Athens, Ohio. Benjamin Waddle died in May, 1879, and his widow passed away in 1881.

William Elsasser, superintendent of the Hardin County Infirmary, which is located in Pleasant township, is a man of prominence among the county officials, possessing in an eminent degree the discretion, trustworthiness and force of character requisite for the responsible position which he has so ably filled since he was called to its duties in 1902. A native of this township, he was born May 31, 1856, a son of John Elsasser, His paternal grandparents were natives and life-long residents of Germany, where the grandfather, who was a weaver by trade, made cloth for the Royal family. They reared three children, Eva, Lena and John, all of whom came to America.

Born and brought up in Germany, John Elsasser received a college

RESIDENCE OF J. G. TRESSEL

J. G. Trussel.

Mrs J G Trussel

education, after which he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. Subsequently desirous of trying life in the United States, a country full of possibilities for the industrious, he came with his family to America, having a long and tedious ocean voyage in a sailing vessel. From New York he came directly to Ohio, locating in Hardin county. He bought seventy-one acres of heavily timbered land lying three miles east of Kenton, paying nine hundred dollars for the tract. Building a log cabin for himself and family he labored with dilgence and perseverance, and having cleared and put under cultivation a large part of it added another forty acres to his original purchase. Successful in his undertakings, he erected substantial frame buildings, and there lived in peace and plenty until his demise, at the age of seventy-three years. He married in the Fatherland Margaret Bishop, who died when seventy-three years old. They reared five sons, George, Louis, John, Henry and William, of whom the older ones were born in Germany, and Henry and William were born in America.

Receiving his early education in the public schools, William Elsasser assisted his father in the work during the long vacations, and until more than twenty-one years of age remaining at home. He subsequently purchased the parental homestead, for which he paid six thousand six hundred dollars, and engaged in general farming and stock raising. In 1902 Mr. Elsasser was appointed to his present official position, and has since superintended the management of the Infirmary in an efficient and acceptable manner.

Mr. Elsasser married Margaret Lutz, who was born in Pleasant township, Hardin county, where her father, Nicholas Lutz, settled on coming to this country from Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Elsasser are the parents of six children, namely: Mary E., Katherine, Karl Julius, Laura, Minnie, and Florence, all at home but Katherine, who is in Lima, Ohio. A Republican in politics, active and prominent in his party, Mr. Elsasser has served as township trustee nine years and ten months, being the first Republican in the office, and he was a Republican candidate for sheriff. He has been a delegate to various county and district conventions, and was appointed by the Governor as a delegate to the National Charities Convention that met in Richmond, Virginia, in 1908, and to the one that met, in 1909, in Buffalo, New York. Fraternally Mr. Elsasser is a member of lodge No. 79, I. O. O. F., of Scioto Encampment; and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Religiously Mr. and Mrs. Elsasser belong to the Evangelical church.

J. G. Tressel, a prominent farmer, and one of the most substantial and prosperous business men of Liberty township, Hardin county, has long been an important factor in developing and promoting the industrial interests of this part of the Western Reserve. Enterprising and practical, he has taken a wise advantage of the thick stratum of stone which covers a large part of his land to the depth of five hundred feet by opening an immense quarry, and in its operation he gives employment to many men, the stone being in great demand, not only for use in piking the public highways, it being excellent material for the con-

struction of state roads, but in the manufacture of concrete. A son of the late John Tressel, he was born, June 20, 1865, on the farm where he now resides, coming from honored pioneer stock. A soldier in the war of 1812, George Tressel, Mr. Tressel's grandfather, migrated from Pennsylvania, his native state, to Ohio, in the early part of the nineteenth century, settling in Tuscarawas county. He married Catherine Shuster, and they became the parents of twelve children, John being one of the older members of the parental household.

Born in Warren township, Tuscarawas county, Ohio, October 24, 1810, John Tressel was brought up on the home farm, as a boy and youth assisting in the pioneer tasks incidental to pioneer life. His early advantages for obtaining an education were meager, but through extensive reading and keen observation he outstripped in learning many of his youthful associates, becoming well-read and well-educated. In 1830 he entered eighty acres of land in Hardin county from the government, paying a dollar and a quarter an acre. He labored with unceasing toil in his efforts to improve his land, and in due course of time had improved an excellent farm, and had erected a frame house in place of the log cabin in which he and his bride began housekeeping. In 1844 he built a grist mill for his own use, and for the convenience of the few scattering settlers in this and adjacent townships, and in 1846 built a saw mill and engaged in the manufacture of lumber. These mills he operated successfully for upwards of a score of years, carrying on a substantial business. A man of ability and influence, he served his community as justice of the peace, and in many of the township offices. He lived to the ripe old age of eighty-seven years, passing away in 1897.

John Tressel married first, in 1833, Eliza Fappin, who died in 1856, leaving four children, as follows: Samuel, Martha J., George C., and Angeline. He married second, in 1859, Mrs. Mary (McKnight) Wells, widow of Amos Wells, and to them five children were born, namely: Alice, deceased, married E. M. Turner; Daniel A; Elizabeth, a twin sister of Daniel A., died at the age of twelve years; Mrs. Dora Turner; and James G., the special subject of this sketch. The mother of these children died in February, 1902, aged seventy-three years six months and twenty days.

Acquiring his early education in the district schools of Liberty township, J. G. Tressel subsequently became actively engaged in the development and advancement of its agricultural and industrial resources, and now occupies a noteworthy position among its esteemed and honored citizens. Coming into possession in 1888 of forty acres of the parental homestead, he has continued the improvements previously inaugurated, erecting a commodious set of farm buildings, and otherwise adding to its value until now it is one of the most attractive and desirable homesteads to be found in this vicinity. During the time that he has been engaged in developing his large quarry, Mr. Tressel has filled many extensive contracts in this and neighboring townships, in his work operating a crusher that is capable of an output of one hundred and fifty cubic yards per day. He has likewise other interests, and is now building a tile factory with a capacity of four thousand tile daily.

Mr. Tressel married in 1888, Della Hamilton, who was born in Hancock county, Ohio, and they have one child, George Ray Tressel, who is now a teacher in the Hostler School District No. 4, Liberty township. Mr. Tressel and his family are valued members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Ada.

Samuel Gilmore, deceased, formerly a carpenter and builder of Kenton, Ohio, was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, June 27, 1822, son of Mitchell and Lizzie (Johnston) Gilmore, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of England. They emigrated to the United States and settled in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, where they lived several years, then located in Kenton, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Mrs. Gilmore died at the age of ninety-one years and her husband died a few years earlier.

The early years of Samuel Gilmore were spent in his native state, and he located in Hardin county, Ohio, about 1847. In 1852 he married Eveline Thompson, daughter of Judge Alex Thompson, who had previously entered one hundred and sixty acres of land from the government, this land being located at the northeastern edge of what is now Kenton. Later he sold off this land in small tracts, all except sixteen acres where Samuel Gilmore erected a two-story frame building some fifty years ago. Judge Thompson was an influential citizen and an active member of the Presbyterian church.

Samuel Gilmore followed his trade in Kenton for many years; he worked on the courthouse, which is still standing, and on the old Central schoolhouse. Later he began contracting and erected a large number of buildings in and around the city of Kenton. He and his wife had but one child, Bell. Mr. Gilmore died in 1884 and his widow survived him many years, passing away November 5, 1907, at the age of eighty-four years.

Bell Gilmore married Dr. D. C. Smith, son of Henry and Lydia (McCartney) Smith, the former born in Fairfield county and the latter in Columbiana county, Ohio. They were married in Ashland county in 1837 and came to Hardin county in 1838, remaining there until their deaths, she passing away August 17, 1876, and he September 5, 1887. Dr. Smith and his wife reside on the sixteen acres of land formerly owned by her grandfather, where her father erected a house over fifty years ago.

Mr. Gilmore is well remembered by the older residents of Kenton, and was well known throughout the county. He was a man of superior business ability and was very successful in his line of endeavor.

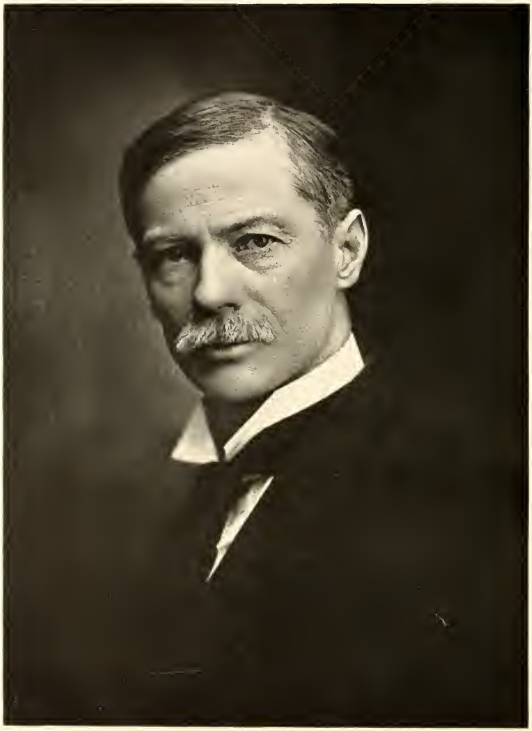
George W. O'Neal.—Progressive and enterprising, George W. O'Neal is actively associated with the industrial prosperity of Kenton, where he is carrying on an extensive and substantial business as an egg and poultry dealer and shipper. He was born, October 9, 1868, near Marseilles, Wyandot county, Ohio, a son of Jeremiah O'Neal. His paternal grandfather, James O'Neal, was a pioneer settler of Marion county, Ohio, where he took up land that was still in its primitive wild-

ness, from which he improved a farm, and there resided until his death, in 1844. His wife, whose maiden name was Parthenia Rice, survived him, and married for her second husband C. C. Alford.

Born in Marion county, Ohio, March 15, 1842, Jeremiah O'Neal was but two years old when his father died. He subsequently lived with his mother and step-father, as a boy assisting on the farm, and having but little opportunity to attend school. In May, 1864, he enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Forty-fourth Volunteer Infantry, and was with his regiment in its various marches and campaigns in Maryland and Virginia until the expiration of his term of enlistment, when, in September, 1864, he was honorably discharged from the service. Returning home, he bought a threshing machine, which he operated a part of each year, the remainder of the time being engaged in the manufacture of staves. Coming from Wyandot county to Hardin county in 1882, he lived for two years in Patterson, and then located in Kenton, where he was for several years successfully employed in mercantile pursuits, but is now living retired. His first wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Bushong, was born in Hancock county, Ohio. She died in 1874, leaving three children, John, George W. and William Edward. He married in 1877 Maria Reed, who was born in Ohio, and they have one child, Beatrice. Religiously he is a member of the Disciples church, and socially he belongs to Cantwell Post No. 97, Grand Army of the Republic.

Attending the public schools as a boy and youth, George W. O'Neal began at an early age to assist his father in the store. Just before attaining his majority he entered the employ of the Big Four Railway Company, in Marion, and later was transferred to the general office of the company in Cleveland. Subsequently accepting a position with the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company, he clerked for awhile in its Cincinnati office, and was then transferred to its office in Richmond, Virginia. Returning from there to Kenton, Mr. O'Neal became a clerk in the office of the Big Four Railway Company, his former employers, and continued in it for a time. Desirous then of embarking in business on his own account, he abandoned clerking and opened a fruit and confectionery store in Kenton. A year later, forming a partnership with his brother, he was engaged in mercantile business as a general merchant until 1893. In that year Mr. O'Neal established his present industry, beginning on a small scale, and each year increasing his operations, until now he is carrying on an extensive business in buying and shipping eggs and poultry to the New York markets.

Mr. O'Neal married, in 1892, Lillian F. Morris, who was born, January 12, 1870, at Patterson, Hardin county, Ohio, a daughter of Dr. William H. and Harriet Morris. Her father was for many years an active and successful practitioner in Patterson. Mr. and Mrs. O'Neal have one child, Helen F. Fraternally Mr. O'Neal is a member of Latham Lodge No. 154, F. & A. M.; of Kenton Council No. 65, R. & S. M.; of Scioto Chapter No. 119, R. A. M.; and of Kenton Commandery, No. 58, K. T.; and also a member of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Masons, Valley of Toledo. Religiously he is a member of the Presby-



AGNEW WELSH

terian church, to which Mrs. O'Neal also belongs. Politically he is a Republican.

JOHN QUINN is an old and venerable citizen of Taylor Creek township, and has now retired from active life. He was for many years a successful farmer and stockman of Hardin county and has spent most of his life in agricultural pursuits. Mr. Quinn is a native of Logan county, Ohio, born along Wood river, October 24, 1827, a son of Michael Quinn, who was born in Queens county, Ireland, and came to America during the war of 1812. After spending six years in the British service Michael Quinn made his escape with others, and crossing the river at Detroit, settled in Logan county, Ohio, where he spent the remainder of his life on a farm and died in 1854. He married Polly Bailey, of Logan county, who died in 1848. John Quinn has a brother, Mart, of Indiana, and a sister, Mrs. Kate Chamberlain, a widow.

After attending the public school and acquiring a very fair education, John Quinn assisted his father in the work of the farm, and at his marriage built a small house on land adjoining his father's farm. In 1854 he removed to Hardin county, and cleared one hundred and twenty-five acres of land in Taylor Creek township. At first he built a log house and later built the comfortable house which is the present family home. He was among the first pioneers of the township. He has earned success by hard work and close economy in the early days, and now owns several farms, aggregating four hundred and fifty acres of land. He did considerable contract work in his younger days and worked very hard to make his start in life. At one time he owned seven hundred acres, part of which he has deeded to his heirs. He paid special attention to stock raising, which he found very profitable, and by good management and keen business judgment he progressed very well after his start was made. Since 1900 Mr. Quinn has not done any active work, though he has good health and is active for one of his age. He has well earned the rest he is now enjoying. He is well known throughout the community, and is highly respected by all who know him. Politically Mr. Quinn is a Democrat, but is not bound by party ties and has never aspired to public office.

Mr. Quinn married Mary Ann Bailey, daughter of Silas and Harriet Bailey, and she was born in Kentucky. After her parents' deaths she was reared by a family in Bellefontaine. Mrs. Quinn died in 1902. To Mr. Quinn and his wife children were born as follows: Mart, who died at the age of twenty-one; Susanna, wife of George Roberts; Nancy Jane, deceased; Harriet Emelia, living at home with her father; and Ella, deceased.

AGNEW WELSH.—A man of brain and enterprise, Agnew Welsh, of Ada, is widely known throughout this section of Hardin county as the owner, editor and publisher of the *Ada Record*, a live, wide-awake newspaper, dealing ably with the leading events of the day. A son of George H. Welsh, he was born, April 11, 1856, in Crawford county, Ohio, coming on the paternal side of the house of excellent Welsh ancestry, his

great-grandfather, John Welsh, having been a native of Wales. His grandfather, Zachariah Welsh, was born in Virginia, coming from there to Ross county, Ohio, in 1807, locating first near Chillicothe. He was a farmer by occupation, and in 1822 moved to Wyandot county, where he remained thirteen years. Migrating then, in 1835, to Crawford county, he there spent the remainder of his life.

George Welsh was born in Ross county, Ohio, but was brought up and educated in Crawford county, where he was for many years prosperously employed as a farmer, and as a stock raiser and dealer, living there until his death, September 12, 1903. He married Margaret J. Agnew, who was born in Mount Vernon, Knox county, Ohio, which was also the birthplace of her father, David Agnew, Jr., whose birth occurred in 1802. Her grandfather, David Agnew, Sr., a Scotchman, served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and after leaving the army lived for awhile near Washington, Pennsylvania, from there coming to Ohio, and locating at Mount Vernon. The union of George Welsh with Margaret J. Agnew was solemnized May 29, 1855, and on April 18, 1856, after a brief but happy wedded life, she died, leaving one son, Agnew Welsh, of whom we write.

Spending his boyhood days in Crawford county, Agnew Welsh there acquired his rudimentary education, and in the spring of 1875 entered the Mount Union College. In August, 1875, he came to Ada, and the following two and a half years attended the Ohio Northern University. He subsequently clerked in a clothing establishment for a year, when, having become familiar with the details of mercantile pursuits, he bought out the book store of J. H. Kemerer, and managed it successfully until the summer of 1881, when his store and stock was destroyed by the disastrous fire that visited Ada. Mr. Welsh then bought, from E. L. Millar, the *Ada Record*, which he has since edited and published. It is a bright, newsy paper, with a circulation amounting to twelve hundred, and each issue receives a warm welcome from his numerous patrons. Mr. Welsh also has a well-equipped job office, and carries on an excellent printing business, keeping busily employed.

Mr. Welsh married, July 8, 1880, Cora E. Houfstater, who was born in Huron county, Ohio, a daughter of J. P. and Lorena Houfstater. Two sons and three daughters have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Welsh, namely: Earl B., of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; Dana E., in business in Ada; Rhea M., a teacher in the public schools of Ada; Opal M., a student in the University; and Margaret A., a freshman in the Ada high school. Prominent in public matters, Mr. Welch has served as a member of the local school board since 1892, and has been both village and township clerk. He has been often urged to accept other official positions, but has invariably refused. Fraternally he is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; of the Knights of Maccabees; and of the Order of the Eastern Star. Religiously Mr. Welsh is a trustworthy and valued member of the Christian church.

Thaddeus Carr, one of Taylor Creek township's representative farmers and stockmen, has lived on the homestead which he now occupies

throughout his entire life, and he was born there on the 11th of September, 1873. Thornton Washington Carr, his father, born in Westmoreland county, Virginia, January 31, 1815, moved with his parents to Pennsylvania when a lad of nine years, later coming with them to Franklin county, Ohio, and finally, in 1872, to Hardin county. His father, John Carr, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and his mother was nee Rachel Reynolds, who died about the year of 1855. On coming to Hardin county the family took up one hundred and sixty acres of land, only three acres of which were partially cleared, and the place contained a small cabin. There the parents spent the remainder of their lives.

Thornton W. Carr, their son, after he had established his parents on this Hardin county farm, left for Wisconsin and the western states, where he worked for two years in the lumber camps and thus secured the money which paid for the land he had homesteaded. He then returned to the parental home, but in 1854 he again left it to engage in the grocery business at Rushsylvania, remaining there one year or until his marriage, and then coming to the homestead now the property of his son Thaddeus. He remained here until his death, which occurred on the 5th of March, 1900. He had attained in the meantime a high reputation as a stock raiser, and he was one of the prominent business men of his township and county, a member of the Disciple church and an efficient and active local worker in the ranks of the Republican party. His first presidential vote was cast for General Jackson. Lydia A. Howell, who became Mr. Carr's wife, yet survives her husband and is living in Hardin county with her son Thaddeus. She was born in February of 1834, a daughter of Henry Holsey and Mary (Tidd) Howell, the father born in 1802, becoming one of the early pioneers of Logan county, and the mother was born in October of 1807. Mrs. Carr has two living sons, Thaddeus and Calvin, and the latter is a stockman and shipper at Kenton. One son Robert H., was killed June 5, 1902, by being thrown from a horse. He was born in 1857. A daughter, Mary F., born March 5, 1859, married Judson Roberts, December 11, 1877, and died January 29, 1879.

After putting aside his text books at the age of sixteen Thaddeus Carr worked on the parental farm, and after his father met with the accident which made him a cripple during the latter part of his life, he being the only son at home took charge of the farm, and he has ever since made a home for his mother. He is extensively engaged in both farming and stock raising, being a large breeder of sheep, hogs, cattle and horses. He is at the present time serving his second term as a member of the board of trustees for Taylor Creek township, and he is one of his community's active public workers.

In 1894 Mr. Carr was married to Alferetta Ewing, who was born October 18, 1870, in Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, a daughter of Robert Irvin Ewing, who was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, January 26, 1835, and he died in Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, March 10, 1898, when sixty-three years of age. He was a son of James F. and Elizabeth (Fleming) Ewing, from Pennsylvania. Robert I. Ewing came to Logan county, Ohio, in 1853, remaining there until 1858,

when he went to Missouri, and while in that state enlisted in Carroll county in 1861 in Company G, Eighteenth Missouri Volunteer Infantry, for service in the Civil war, and his term expiring in 1864 he reenlisted and was made the sergeant of his company. He was mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, in 1865, and in the following year of 1866 he came to Silver Creek in Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, and was thereafter engaged in a mercantile business there until the time of his death. He was also during a number of years the postmaster of his town. Mrs. Orilla J. Stevenson became the wife of Mr. Ewing, and she was a daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth (Jewell) Harris, Logan county farmers. Isaac Harris was one of the pioneer members of the Odd Fellows lodge at Belle Center, Ohio. Their children, not including Mrs. Carr, are as follows: Stevenson, living in the state of Washington; Marvin Glenn, of Castle Rock, Washington; LeRoy, a farmer near Kenton; Desmoine, living in Taylor Creek township; and Nettie, the wife of Robert Sieg, of Union county, Ohio. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Carr are: Thornton W., born June 2, 1898; Robert J. and Carl M., twins, born June 20, 1902; Thaddeus, born November 18, 1904; and Katheryn, born October 2, 1906. Mrs. Carr is a member of the United Presbyterian church.

Mrs. Eliza Sloan, widow of Thomas Sloan, of Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, was born in May, 1836, in county Monaghan, Ireland, and is a daughter of John and Eliza (Wiley) Sloan. John Sloan, who died in 1866, was a son of James and Letta (Gilson) Sloan, and his wife was a daughter of Thomas and Mary Ann (Scroggy) Wiley.

Eliza Sloan married Thomas Sloan in Ireland, March 22, 1852. He was born in Ireland, June 20, 1820, and died in Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, Ohio, February 29, 1880. He was a son of John Sloan, of the same county in Ireland as John (father of Eliza) Sloan. The former married Sarah McClellan, also of Ireland. Thomas Sloan accompanied his parents to Hardin county, Ohio, in 1833, when he was thirteen years of age. They located near the old Sloan cemetery, which was located on land donated by the family for a cemetery, and John Sloan's wife was the first person buried there. They took up one hundred and twenty-three acres of land and built a small log house. Mr. Sloan died there April 1, 1864, at the age of ninety-seven years, and his widow died at the age of forty-seven years.

Thomas Sloan remained with his parents until his majority, and then for three years worked on a boat on Lake Erie. Returning to Hardin county, he found employment as foreman in the construction of the Mad River Railroad, now the Big Four, between Kenton and Huntsville. In 1851 he made a visit to Ireland and there met his future wife, being married the next year. The young couple took passage for America in the City of Manchester, spending four weeks on the trip. They located on the land where Mrs. Sloan now resides, owning first one hundred and eighty acres. Later they added one hundred and twenty acres and built a frame house which is still on the premises. The present home was erected in 1872, and is a comfortable, commodious

dwelling, one of the most substantial in the section. Mr. Sloan cleared most of his farm himself and became very successful. He made all possible improvements and made a specialty of stock raising. He was an enterprising, ambitious man and well deserved success. He became a useful, public-spirited citizen, and had a multitude of friends. He was a member of the Reformed Presbyterian church and served many years as elder. Politically he was a Republican and active in the interests of his party. Mr. Sloan was always ready to give his support to any worthy cause and was liberal in his financial support to various churches in the vicinity of his home. He was a good neighbor and had many warm personal friends. He was familiarly known as "old Tom Sloan," and his neighbors and associates knew if called upon he would give them substantial aid and help them over difficulties. His widow carries out his policy of lending help to such objects as appeal to her sympathy and good judgment, and has accomplished a great deal of good on her own account. She was one of eight children, two of whom still live in Ireland. She is a member of the Reformed Presbyterian church of Bell Center and actively interested in its welfare. She is the only one left of the pioneer Sloan family, and has witnessed many changes and improvements in the vicinity of her home. In 1875 she and her brother John made a visit to their native country of three months.

To Thomas Sloan and his wife children were born as follows: John James, of Marion, married May Walters, and they have two children, Thomas Walter and Henrietta, the former of whom married Lulu B. Bland; Eliza Ann, married John Sloan, of Toronto, Canada, and they have no children; Robert Samuel, of Oklahoma, married Dell A. Rogers, and they have no children; Letitia married Charles Wharton of Kenton, and they have three children, Eliza, Russel and Frances; Sarah Frances, deceased; William McClellan, a farmer of Taylor Creek township; Thomas Henry, a farmer of Taylor Creek township, married Agnes Richards and they have one child, Ann Isabel; and Emily Jane, deceased, was the wife of George Fink; David, deceased; Margaret Isabel, widow of Burton Wilson, living with her mother; and George J., who married Grace Davis West, and is a farmer in Hardin county.

William McClellan Sloan was born March 15, 1862, on the family homestead, and after his marriage bought one hundred and forty-two acres of the home farm, which contained from six hundred to seven hundred acres. At the death of Thomas Sloan the farm was divided among his children who survived. William M. Sloan has followed farming all his life and has made a scientific study of modern methods. He makes a specialty of high-grade cattle and horses. He married Jenny Skillman, daughter of Martin and Mary (Floyd) Skillman, who were formerly residents of Hamilton county, Ohio. Mr. Sloan and his wife have one child, David. He is a member of the United Presbyterian church of Belle Center. Politically he is a Republican and actively interested in local affairs. He served one term as township trustee. He is a progressive and enterprising citizen, and highly esteemed.

John D. Fitzpatrick represents one of the old and well known families of Hardin county, one that has resided within its borders for many years, and he himself is one of Taylor Creek township's substantial agriculturists and business men and its present constable. He was born at the old homestead in Taylor Creek township, May 6, 1883, and his ancestry is found in the sketch of his father, George W. Fitzpatrick, on other pages of this work.

After leaving school at the age of seventeen John D. Fitzpatrick farmed with his father until his marriage, and he then came to his present homestead in Taylor Creek township, where he is well and prominently known as a general farmer and stock raiser. In 1907 he was elected by the Democratic party as the constable of his township, and he is now serving his second term in that office. On the 21st of December, 1904, he was married to Hattie Greentree, who was born in McDonald township of Hardin county on the 19th of August, 1885, a daughter of G. W. and Melvina (Broughman) Greentree, both of whom are living, the father being forty-six and the mother forty-five years of age. The paternal grandfather was Alexander Greentree. The children of G. W. and Melvina Greentree, not including Mrs. Fitzpatrick, are: Estella, the wife of Thomas Campbell, of Roundhead township; Mary, wife of J. A. Reed, of the same township; Anna, wife of Denny Stout, of Belle Center; and John and Martha, at home with their parents. Two sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Fitzpatrick, William Earl, on the 24th of July, 1906, and John L., on the 2d of August, 1908. Mr. Fitzpatrick has fraternal relations with the Masonic order, affiliating with lodge No. 347 at Belle Center, and he is one of the Democratic leaders of his community.

Hamilton E. Hoge.—A man of strong personality, energetic and capable, Hamilton E. Hoge holds a noteworthy position among the leading citizens of Kenton, where he is actively engaged in the practice of law, and is serving as president of the First National Bank. A son of the Hon. S. L. Hoge, he was born, February 10, 1868, in Charleston, South Carolina, but was brought up in the north.

Coming with his parents to Kenton, Ohio, at the age of nine years, Hamilton E. Hoge was here partly educated, attending first the public schools and later Kenyon College. Ambitious to enter the legal fraternity, he subsequently began the study of law at the Cincinnati Law School, from which he was graduated with the class of 1890. Immediately beginning the practice of his profession in Kenton, he has met with well deserved success, and is now carrying on a remunerative business as junior member of the well-known law firm of Smick & Hoge. He possesses much financial as well as legal knowledge and ability, and in February, 1909, on the death of his father, was elected president of the First National Bank of Kenton.

Mr. Hoge married, on August 18, 1897, Minnie E. Schindewolf, daughter of Theodore Schindewolf, of Kenton, and of their union two children have been born, namely: Virginia and Marian. Fraternally Mr. Hoge is a member of Kenton Lodge, No. 157, Benevolent and Pro-

tective Order of Elks; of the Modern Woodmen of America; and of the college fraternity Delta Kappa Epsilon. Taking an active part in public affairs and political matters, Mr. Hoge is a member of the executive committee of the Republican party of Hardin county, and its ex-chairman, and for six years, from 1903 until 1909, was prosecuting attorney of Hardin county.

George W. Fitzpatrick is one of the venerable and honored residents of Hardin county, where he has made his home for many years and in all this time he has been one of its prominent agriculturists. He was born in Virginia on the 10th of August, 1836, whither his father Ferrell Fitzpatrick, had settled on coming from the north of Ireland, the place of his nativity, when a young man of twenty-one, locating in Rockridge county. He married Sarah Black, a daughter of George Black, an English family, and she died in 1852, at the age of fifty years, surviving her husband, who was forty-eight at the time of his death. He was a stone mason by trade. Their children, in addition to their son George, were: James B., a Methodist Episcopal minister, who died in Mississippi; Martha and Elizabeth, whose first husbands both died in the Confederate service during the Civil war, and Elizabeth subsequently wedded a Mr. J. Clark, of Virginia, and Martha married for her second husband W. Hardington; John Fitzpatrick, the third child, served as captain of a company of infantry from Rockbridge county, Virginia, during the Civil war; and William Fitzpatrick, of Xenia, Greene county, Ohio.

After leaving school at the age of sixteen George W. Fitzpatrick spent two years in farming in Fayette county, West Virginia, and then with his employer he went to Greenbrier county in that state and spent the following two years, was then again in Fayette county one year, engaged in farming, and this brought him to the outbreak of the Civil war. But he did not espouse the cause of the south, as did his people, instead he came to Hardin county and enlisted from Columbus in 1863 in Company I, Forty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under the command of Captain Rarey, and he was with his captain when the latter was wounded and fell at his side. Mr. Fitzpatrick remained with his regiment until it was mustered out of service, and he was then transferred to Company I, Fifty-first Ohio, which was later sent via New Orleans to Indianola, Texas, thence to Green Lake, that state, and they were mustered out at Victoria, Texas. He was captured after the fall of Atlanta in 1864 and was confined two weeks in prison at Macon, Georgia, and at Camp Lawton forty days, and was then exchanged. He proved a true and gallant defender of the Union, although to do this he fought against the land of his birth and against his own brothers, who had espoused the cause of the southland. Returning to the north via the Gulf of Mexico and the Mississippi river he located in Hardin county and bought fifty-one acres of land near Silver Creek, where his first home was a little log cabin which he built and which is still standing, and there too he raised his family of children. With the passing years he has added to his original purchase until his estate now contains

one hundred and seventy-five acres, and this is now one of the best improved and most modern farms in the township. He has during the past many years been extensively engaged in raising and shipping stock in addition to his general farming, but he is now living retired and the work of the place is carried on by his two sons.

Mr. Fitzpatrick was married in 1869, on the 11th of November, to Emily F. Fleece, who was born in Morgan county, Virginia, January 29, 1853, a daughter of Joseph and Rachel (Dyke) Fleece. Joseph D. Fleece, who became a farmer and blacksmith, was born on the same homestead in Morgan county as was his daughter, and there too occurred the birth of John Fleece, the grandfather of Mrs. Fitzpatrick. The latter's wife was Mary Flynn. Joseph D. Fleece came to Hardin county, Ohio, in 1864, settling on a farm near Silver Creek, but his death occurred in McDonald township, whither he subsequently moved, November 1, 1899, when seventy-one years of age. His wife, nee Rachel Dycke, died on the 8th of November of the same year, when sixty-five years of age. Mrs. Fitzpatrick has two brothers living, Albert and Charles, both farming in McDonald township. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Fitzpatrick: Ferrill, born in 1871, married Mary Ewing, by whom he has eight children, and he is a farmer in Taylor Creek township; Florence, born in 1873, is the wife of Howard Vermillion, of Roundhead, and they have six children; Mary, deceased; Joseph, born in 1878, and now a Taylor Creek township farmer, married Emily Sherman and they have one child; William C., born in 1880, is living in Tacoma, Washington; John, born in 1883, and now a business man in Taylor Creek township, married Hattie Greentree, and they have two children; and Elizabeth, born in 1885, Randolph, in 1888, and Catherine, in 1890, all at the parental home. The family are members of the United Presbyterian church at Silver Creek.

Samuel Epley is a representative of one of the pioneer families of Hardin county, Ohio. His parents, George J. and Barbara (Wooster) Epley, natives of Germany, came to America some time previous to 1829, and stopped first at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. There, for a short time, the father worked at his trade, that of shoemaker. Soon the inducements offered by the Western Reserve attracted him to Ohio; he bought and sold a farm in Stark county, from Stark county he moved to Fairfield county, and in 1859 he came to Hardin county. Here he bought a hundred and sixty acres of land, upon which Ada is now built, this part of the country being then a wilderness. And here he and his good wife endured the many hardships incident to life on the frontier, and also they enjoyed the advantages and opportunities which were offered for the development of a home and provision for their family. They had eleven children, whose names in order of birth are as follows: Mary, Elizabeth, Louis, John, George, Barbara, Catherine, Martin, Samuel, Jacob and Solomon. The mother died in 1849, the father in 1893, at a ripe old age.

Samuel Epley was born, in 1839, in Fairfield county, where he was reared and educated. He was just emerging from his teens and was

still a member of the home circle when the family settled in Hardin county, as above stated. When he was twenty-three he purchased a farm of eighty-acres in Liberty township, virgin soil, which he improved and sold at a profit. Subsequently he bought and sold other farms, always realizing a good return for the money and labor expended. His present place comprises one hundred and forty acres of choice land, well improved and classed as one of the finest farms in Liberty township. His house and farm buildings are commodious and convenient. He uses the most modern methods and machinery, and he gives his personal time and attention to the care of his crops—in short, he is what may be termed a practical and successful farmer.

On March 3, 1863, Mr. Epley married Miss Caroline, daughter of Nicholas and Barbara Heigh, and two children were born to them, both now married: Mrs. Ida Bowers and Mrs. Daisy Carey. Mrs. Epley was born in Hardin county in 1841, and died in 1904. While in no sense a politician or a public man, Mr. Epley has always taken a deep interest in various enterprises that have tended to promote the welfare of his township and county, lending both his influence and substantial aid whenever he could help along a worthy cause. When the university was started at Ada he was one of its first stockholders.

Mrs. Nancy Ann Windle, widow of John H. Windle, of Taylor Creek township, was born in Maryland August 14, 1835. She is a daughter of John Halina, a native of Germany, who died in 1862, at the age of seventy years. His wife, Margaret (Vermond) Halina, died in 1860, at the age of fifty-six. They came to Ohio with their four children, and after his wife's death Mr. Halina moved west and settled near St. Louis, Missouri, where he died.

The childhood of Nancy A. Halina was spent in Maryland and in 1855 she married John H. Windle, of Virginia, born in 1832, in that state, a son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Keller) Windle. After their marriage they lived four years in Virginia, engaged in farming, then lived two years near Columbus, Ohio, and a short time in Marion county. Later they located near Kenton, in Hardin county, where in June, 1875, they bought the present farm of seventy-five acres. Here Mr. Windle died and his widow has since resided on the farm, which is now managed by her son.

Mr. Windle enlisted for one hundred days' service in the Union army. He began farming in Franklin county and from there moved to Hardin county where he died in 1873. Mrs. Windle has brothers and sisters as follows: Sarah, wife of J. Stark, a farmer of McLean county, Illinois; Mary, widow of a Mr. Jones, an officer in the Civil war, killed during his service; and John, of Stanford, Illinois. Mrs. Windle is a member of the Methodist church and active in church work. She is one of the most highly esteemed residents of the community and has a wide circle of friends.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Windle are as follows: Samuel, deceased; Catherine, wife of S. Swartz, of Kenton, has five children; Mary, wife of James Wells, of Kenton; John and George, twins, de-

ceased; William H., who carried on the farm which he bought in 1899, married Ida B. Fenton; Anna, wife of Charles Bishop, of Crawford county, Ohio, has three children, Mary, Joseph and William, the last named married to Ethel Teets. Mr. Swartz and his wife have two children who are married, Burton, who married Flora Hanna and has one child, and Milla, wife of J. Frey, has two children.

William Windle, who owns the farm and with whom his mother lives, is a prosperous farmer, dairyman and stock raiser. He has some thirty head of cattle and considerable other stock. Mr. Windle is an enterprising, up-to-date farmer, and is very successful. His wife's father died when she was two years of age, and she was reared by J. R. Miller, of Kenton, with whom she lived until her marriage. She has one sister, Angeline, wife of M. Miller. Her mother was Harriet (Collins) Fenton. Mr. Windle and his wife became the parents of eight children, namely: Paul E., Marian J., Anna B., Roy W., Clyde V., Cecil T., John R. and Grace. Politically Mr. Windle is a Democrat, and the family attend the Methodist Episcopal church at Sugar Creek, Ohio.

William M. Dunson, a prosperous farmer of Dudley township, Hardin county, was born in the county, in Hale township, April 16, 1863. He is a son of Louis and Margaret (Plew) Dunson. Louis Dunson, born in Logan county, Ohio, in 1822, was a son of Thomas Dunson, who was born in 1802, and was the first of the family to locate in Hardin county. He settled in Hale township, at what was then called Grassy Point, in 1840, and spent the remainder of his life clearing and improving his farm. He became the owner of one hundred acres. He married Beulah Patrick, a native of Virginia; he died at the age of seventy-two years. He was a member of the Christian church. Thomas Dunson served in the war of 1812 and hauled provisions as a mere boy. He moved from Virginia to Logan county, Ohio. He married Miss Cushing and both died in Hale township, Hardin county, on his farm.

After attending the district schools until he was a young man, Louis Dunson worked on his father's farm until his marriage and then located in North Washington. Later he purchased the old Doby farm in Hale township, which he sold in 1863 and bought another farm in the same township. In 1865 he located in Buck township, where he carried on farming until a few years before his death, then retiring to Mt. Victory, where he died in May, 1897. He was a prominent man and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In 1862 he enlisted in Company F, Thirteenth Ohio, and was wounded at the battle of Stone River by a gunshot in his knee. He was discharged, and returned home February 20, 1863. He belonged to the Grand Army of the Republic of Mt. Victory. He was a successful farmer and made a specialty of breeding Poland China hogs. He married, in 1849, Margaret, daughter of William and Mary (Kelly) Plew, and they had children as follows: Beulah, wife of J. W. Thompson, of Kenton, Ohio; John, of Hepburn; Benniah, a carpenter of Kenton; Thomas, of Idaho; Alice, wife of J. Plattner; William M.; Cora, wife of W. Hastings; and Rush, of Defiance, Ohio.

C. A. Gunder & Wife.

After reaching his majority, William M. Dunson helped his father on the farm one year and then followed the trade of carpenter ten years in Hale township. He then removed to Hepburn and spent eleven years at his trade and working on the railroad, and during that time also carried on a farm near Mt. Victory. In 1897 he sold this farm and bought his present farm of fifty-nine acres, where he makes a specialty of cattle, sheep and hog raising. He also owns some property in Hepburn. He owns one hundred and eighty acres of land in Lawrence county, Kentucky, where he spent one year about 1904 and which he now rents. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and also of the Grange. Though taking an interest in public affairs he does not take any active part in political matters, spending his whole time in carrying on his farm and caring for his business interests.

On April 15, 1888, Mr. Dunson married Sarah A. Pickett, born in 1858, a daughter of Peter J. and Hannah (McFadden) Pickett, natives of Muskingum county. Mr. Pickett came from Belmont county, Ohio, to Hardin county. He died in 1860, at the age of thirty-two years, having been born April 13, 1828. Mrs. Pickett was the daughter of Robert and Nancy (Barrett) McFadden, natives of Belmont county. She died in 1863, at the age of thirty-four, leaving four children, Mrs. Dunson being then five years of age. Her brothers are Marian, a farmer; William, of Dunkirk, Ohio; and James, of Fullerton, California. Mrs. Dunson, at the death of her mother, was adopted by Joshua and Elizabeth (Hopkins) Cope. He was born December 12, 1813, and died in 1902. His wife, a native of Pickaway, Ohio, daughter of Robert and Nancy (Veney) Hopkins, was born February 26, 1817, and died in 1885. Mr. Cope came to Hardin county in 1832; he was a son of Joshua and Isabella (McCrea) Cope. Mrs. Dunson attended the public schools until eighteen years of age and later attended Ada University. She taught school seven years and then kept house for her foster-father after his wife's death. Her younger brother also lived with Mr. Cope and his wife. Mr. Cope raised, or partly raised, nineteen children, including all of Mrs. Dunson's brothers and herself.

Mr. Dunson and his wife had children as follows: Lewis H., born in 1888, an architect living in California; George A., born March 11, 1890, attending high school in Kenton; Mildred May, born in 1892, attending school in Kenton; Orpha, born February 21, 1896, also attending school in Kenton; Beulah Alice, born March 23, 1899; and John William, born April 19, 1901. Mr. Dunson is a very successful farmer and is well known throughout the community. He is honest and upright, and his probity and good principles are unquestioned.

CHARLES A. GUIDER.—In the death of Charles A. Guider, at his home in the village of McGuffey, on the 29th of November, 1902, there passed away one of the honored and sterling citizens of Hardin county, which had represented his home and been the scene of his endeavors during the major portion of his long and useful life. He was a man of great mechanical genius and ability, and during nearly his entire busi-

ness career he was identified with mechanical enterprises, through the medium of which he attained independence and prosperity. He served with intrepid valor as a soldier of the Union in the Civil war, during nearly the entire period of which he was stationed with his regiment in the great northwest, where he assisted in holding the hostile Indians in subjection and also in other important military movements. It is said that he was the only man with an artificial leg who succeeded in enlisting in the army at the time of the Civil war, and this physical defect was not discovered by the military authorities for some time after he had entered the service. The infirmity never interfered with his duties as a soldier, and his record was one of signal gallantry. He was a man of unassuming characteristics but his intrinsic integrity, sincerity and honor were never questioned, so that it was a natural result that he should hold a secure place in the confidence and regard of the people of Hardin county, where he long lived and labored to worthy ends. It is a matter of gratification to be able to present in this work a brief review of his career.

Charles A. Guider was born in the city of Columbus, Ohio, on the 5th of November, 1837, and was a son of Augustus C. and Christena (Daniel) Guider, both of whom were natives of Schwartzburg-Rodolstadt, Germany, where the former was born in 1810 and the latter in 1812. Both passed the closing years of their lives in Hardin county, Ohio, where the mother died in 1852 and the father in 1870. The paternal grandfather of the subject of this memoir was of Spanish birth. Augustus C. Guider came with his wife to Ohio in 1834, and in 1841 they removed to Hardin county and settled in Washington township, where the father devoted the remainder of his life principally to agricultural pursuits. Of the six children Charles A. was the eldest son.

The educational advantages of Charles A. Guider in his boyhood and youth were limited, as he was reared to maturity in the pioneer wilds of Hardin county, but nevertheless succeeded in obtaining a good practical education and became proficient in three languages, namely: English, German and Siouxan (Indian). He early began to lend his aid in the work of the home farm and manifesting from his boyhood most pronounced mechanical ability. As a youth he made all the tools and implements used on the farm, even manufacturing wagons and buggies. In 1858, shortly before attaining his legal majority, he secured employment in the wagon factory of J. G. Orth, at Arcadia, Hancock county, and in November of the same year he went to Findlay, this state, where he engaged in the same line of work and proved himself a skilled artisan. In May, 1860, he returned to Washington township, Hardin county, where he secured a position in a saw mill, in which he was soon made head sawyer. Soon afterward he went to Indiana, but he remained only a short time. He returned to Hardin county and here, on the 21st of November, 1861, the accidental overturning of a wagon so severely crushed his right foot and ankle as to necessitate the amputation of the leg at a point midway between the ankle and knee.

To the average man such an infirmity as that noted would have precluded all thought of going forth for service as a soldier, but the

loyalty and patriotism of Mr. Guider were such that he refused to recognize his injury as a handicap, when the integrity of the nation was in peril through armed rebellion. Thus, on the 23d of July, 1863, he enlisted as a private in a company recruited in Hardin county for a term of six months. This company was sent to Camp Dennison at Columbus, and was finally disbanded, whereupon Mr. Guider and other members of the organization joined the Eleventh Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, which was forthwith assigned to service in the northwest. There he had charge of mail squads between Horse Station and Fort Marshall, a distance of fifty-five miles, and he also encountered his full share of dangers and arduous service in other lines. He continued with his command for three years, during which he was absent from duty only six days. He was promoted to the office of corporal and was assigned to the charge of large squads of men sent forth on detail duty of dangerous order, the Indians being a constant menace to the troops in their operations. In 1865 Corporal Guider and twelve of his men were assigned to duty at Fort Marshall, where, during the last three months of his service, he had charge of the artillery,—a preferment gained by his bravery and his skill as a marksman. In July, 1864, Mr. Guider carried a message, requesting reinforcements, from Colonel Collins, at Fort Laramie, Wyoming, to Major Mackey, at Fort Halleck,—a distance of one hundred and thirty miles through a country infested by hostile Indians. He accomplished this hazardous mission in one and one-half days. In the spring of 1866 his company returned to Fort Laramie, and on the 15th of the following June the command started for the east arriving at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, about the middle of the following month. There Mr. Guider received his honorable discharge on the 14th of July, 1866. Frank Weller, a member of the same regiment, contributed to a Kenton paper some time ago a most interesting and appreciative article relative to Mr. Guider, who was still living at the time, and it is but consistent that the statements be perpetuated in this memoir In the context only slight elimination and paraphrase are made, to render the article consonant with the province of the sketch here presented.

"In reminiscent war talks with veterans of the Union army in different parts of the country, I have frequently mentioned a comrade of my own, who, I claimed, was the only soldier with an artificial leg ever mustered into the United States army. This statement is usually received with polite incredulity by many old soldiers, while some who are more pointed than polite flatly contradict it. It does seem incredulous that a man with one foot literally in the grave could pass the rigid medical examination that was supposed to prevail in the army, but that such a thing did actually happen, in one instance at least, can be verified by the officers and enlisted men of the regiment, as well as by the soldier himself, who has been a resident of Hardin county for many years. The soldier who is thus distinguished above his comrades is Charles A. Guider. Early in 1861 his foot was so crushed by the overturning of a wagon that amputation was necessary, midway between the ankle and knee. Guider was confined to his bed by the injury when the attack

upon Fort Sumter was made, and the president issued his first call for troops. He is a patriot composed of the stuff of which good soldiers are made, and it grieved him deeply because he was debarred by the loss of his leg from offering his services to the country in its time of danger and need. When the stump was sufficiently healed the place of the missing leg was supplied by one of cork, which, after a few weeks use, could not be detected save by a slight limp in walking.

"Guider would have enlisted as soon as he was able to go about, but he felt that it would be impossible for him to pass the strict medical examination to which volunteers are supposed to be subjected. However, in 1863, he did enlist in a company of six months' cavalry that was being recruited in Kenton, hoping by hook or crook to slip past the examining surgeon. The six months' regiment was disbanded at Camp Dennison and Guider, with several other Hardin county boys, joined the Eleventh Ohio Cavalry, which was being organized at that place. The writer entered the company from another county at the same time, and was mustered into the service with Guider. It is singular, indeed, that an army surgeon would perform his duty in so careless a manner as to pronounce a man with an artificial leg as physically sound and fit for active service in time of war; and the only way it can be accounted for is that the surgeon was under the influence of liquor. The examination in the case of the writer was superficial in the extreme and consisted of a few thumps on the chest and a silly question or two in regard to his physical condition. Guider's turn came next, and the inference is that his examination was conducted in the same free and easy manner, as he was accepted and the next day became a full-fledged soldier in Uncle Sam's army. When the organization of the regiment was completed it was sent to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and after a short campaign in pursuit of the freebooter, Quantrell, was ordered to Fort Laramie, in the territory that is now embraced in the state of Wyoming.

"It was not until the regiment reached the latter place that it became generally known that one of its members sported a wooden leg. Then it was that the regimental surgeon sent for Guider and tendered him his discharge on the ground of physical disability. But the intrepid cavalry man would not have it that way. He said that he had enlisted for three years or during the war, and he intended to stick to the boys until he was either killed or discharged. He was true to his word and proved to be one of the bravest and most valuable soldiers in the regiment. There was not a soldier in the regiment more respected by both officers and men, and he had been but a short time in the company until he was made a non-commissioned officer. During the three years the regiment was in the service he was on the sick report but three times, and never shirked a duty or asked a favor on account of his physical infirmity. He was always ready for duty and took an active part in all the marches, scouts, fights and skirmishes in which his company was engaged. Once he volunteered with a single companion to carry a dispatch from Fort Laramie to Fort Halleck, a distance of nearly one hundred and forty miles, over plain and mountains, through a wildly

desolate country literally swarming with hostile savages who never took a prisoner alive. This was a feat that few men in the regiment, however daring would have cared to undertake.

"After three years of arduous, dangerous and honorable service Comrade Guider was mustered out with the regiment, at Fort Leavenworth, July 14, 1864. He then returned to Hardin county, where he has since lived, proving himself to be as good and as useful a citizen as he was a brave and patriotic soldier. Mr. Guider is a modest and unassuming gentleman, as indeed are all good soldiers, and has never tried to gain fame or sympathy as the only one-legged man who ever enlisted in the army. He believes that he only did his duty, and has never sought fame on account of it. And it can also be added that up to this time his name does not appear on the pension rolls."

Upon his return to his home in Hardin county Mr. Guider began work in the construction of a schoolhouse in Cessna township, and for four years thereafter he followed the trades of carpenter and blacksmith. In 1871 he married, and he then turned his attention to the manufacturing of wagons and carriages, establishing his shop in the village of North Washington, now Dola. From 1875 to 1881 he utilized horse power in the operation of the machinery of his shop. He manufactured his own band saw, boring machine, drill and lathe. In the autumn of 1880 he engaged in the manufacture of lumber, in Lynn township, and in this enterprise he was associated with M. L. Bridenstine and W. J. Obenour. In September, 1882, he sold his interest in the business and returned to his home in North Washington (now Dola) but in December, 1882, repurchased the business and moved to McGuffey where he continued to manufacture lumber until November 29, 1902, when he met his death by the explosion of the boiler in his mill. He was unswerving in his allegiance to the Republican party and took a deep and intelligent interest in the questions and issues of the day, though he had naught of ambition for official preferment of any description. He was a consistent and liberal member of the United Brethren church, an uncompromising advocate of the cause of temperance, and was a man who was signally true and loyal in all the relations of life. His heart was attuned to kindliness and charity, and he was a true friend to those in affliction and distress. In the precincts of his home, the center of his interests and affections, his noble character best revealed itself, and to those nearest and dearest there comes a measure of consolation and compensation in the memories of the past and in having lived in touch with one so generous and one who so well exemplified the truth of the statement that "The bravest are the tenderest; the loving are the daring."

In Kenton, this county, on the 23d of October, 1871, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Guider to Miss Marilla A. Kridler, who was born at Lordstown, Trumbull county, Ohio, on the 19th of October, 1850, and who is a daughter of Daniel and Jeunette (Campbell) Kridler, who settled in Trumbull county in an early day, the father having come to Ohio from Pennsylvania and having been of stanch German ancestry. Mrs. Guider survived her honored husband and now resides near

McGuffey. Mr. and Mrs. Guider became the parents of four children: Myrta Julia, Eva Jennette, Ethel Pearl and Emma Grace. Myrta Julia was married to William C. McGuffey, November 28, 1894, and now resides on their farm at McGuffey; Eva Jennette was married to William H. Powell February 10, 1897, and they reside on their farm near Ada; Ethel P. died on the 6th of September, 1880, at the age of four years; and Miss Emma G. is a successful and popular teacher in the public schools of Hardin county.

George Elwood Geiger, a prominent farmer and a successful breeder of hogs and poultry living in Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, Ohio, is a native of Seneca county, born June 7, 1861. He is a son of Jacob and Hannah (Detwiler) Geiger. Jacob C. Geiger was born in Stark county, Ohio, and died in January, 1878, at the age of fifty years; his widow survived him many years and died July 3, 1904, at the age of seventy-three. They located in Hardin county in 1866, and Mr. Geiger engaged in the grocery business in Kenton, continuing the same until his death. By trade he was a harness-maker. He was a son of Jacob and Elizabeth Geiger, who came to the United States from Germany, settling in Stark county. Jacob Geiger, Jr., was a member of the first Methodist Episcopal church of Kenton. He was a Republican and held several minor offices. George E. Geiger has three brothers and two sisters living, namely: William Henry, of Los Angeles, California; Ulysses Grant, a farmer of Cessna township, Hardin county; Frank August, of North Dakota; Jennie Elizabeth, wife of A. Offenbecker, of Urbana, Ohio; and Alice Ada, wife of Charles W. Kissling, of Urbana.

The boyhood of George E. Geiger was spent with his parents, and he attended the public school until sixteen years of age, after which he turned his attention to farming. At his father's death he began farming on his own account in Hardin county, spending nine years on the Jacob Sponceler farm. He then farmed three years in Logan county, and in 1901 located on his present farm, where he has been very successful as breeder and raiser of hogs and poultry. He has a fine flock of pure bred Barred Plymouth Rocks, also an equally fine flock of Rhode Island Reds, which have attracted attention throughout his part of the state. He also makes a success of raising Dew Rock Jersey hogs. Mr. Geiger carries on general farming, raising grain to feed his stock.

In 1886 Mr. Geiger married Ida Bell Nickell, who was born November 2, 1868, daughter of James and Lida Jane (Crow) Nickell. Mr. Nickell was a farmer and died at the age of forty years. His widow survives him and lives at Huntsville, Ohio, now seventy-one years of age. Mrs. Geiger was reared in the family of John Pifer, of Kenton, after her father's death. To Mr. and Mrs. Geiger children have been born as follows: Verna E., now twenty-three years of age, teaching school in Lynn township; Vesta, wife of Reuben Koons, a farmer; and Florence G., aged fourteen, attending school. Mr. Geiger and his wife are both members of the Methodist church of Silver Creek, and active in church work. He is a Republican, and has for three years held the office of

township assessor. He was also a member of the school board. He belongs to the local Grange. Mr. Geiger has won his success in life through his own efforts and deserves great credit for the manner in which he has attained his present property and position. He is naturally a man of keen perceptions and sound judgment, which coupled with his enterprise and ambition, have enabled him to forge ahead at a good pace. He is well known and popular in the neighborhood.

Dr. James M. Wood, a physician and surgeon living in Dudley township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born in Marion county, Ohio, March 1, 1853, and is a son of Hampton and Susanna (Marsh) Wood. Hampton Wood was born at Egg Harbor, New Jersey, in 1813, and was a son of Isaac and Sarah Wood, of Scotch and Irish descent. Isaac Wood and his wife moved from Darke county to Marion county, Ohio, in 1882, when the country was sparsely settled, and took up one hundred and sixty acres of land. They made the trip with a team of oxen and brought their farm implements with them. They spent the remainder of their lives in Marion county, where they became prosperous and began making improvements on their farm. They were the parents of twelve children. They had to bear the privations and hardships incident to pioneer life, and soon after settling in Marion county Mr. Wood would split one hundred rails and trade them for one bushel of corn, which he carried thirty miles to have ground at the mill. In his day the children had no shoes, and he was a hardy, hardworking man, who strove constantly to make the most of his land and keep his family supplied with necessities. He was a Whig in his younger days and later became a Republican.

Both Hampton Wood and his father were known and admired for their hardiness and their endurance of all kinds of hard work. The former was the oldest of the children and attended school winters until he was eighteen years of age, when he began teaching and was the first teacher in Dudley township, beginning in the old Boynton school. He continued in his profession and carrying on a farm until his death. Politically he was a Republican and held the township offices of treasurer, clerk and justice of the peace. He was an active worker and member of the Free Will Baptist church and often served as a deacon. He became prosperous as a farmer, and was a progressive, enterprising citizen. His death occurred on May 8, 1889. He was married in 1846 to Susanna, Marsh, who died in 1878, at the age of fifty-five years; she was a daughter of Nalen and Mary A. (Yazell) Marsh, of Marion county. Mr. Wood and his wife became the parents of the following children: Isaac, a farmer of Oregon; John, of Kenton, Ohio; Dr. J. M.; George, a farmer of Marion county; Scott, a farmer of Marion county; Pearl, on the old homestead; Lawrence, a farmer; Eliza Catherine, wife of A. P. Rhodes, a farmer; Ollie, wife of Jacob Yauger, and Merty, Nathan and Henry, who died when young.

Dr. J. M. Wood attended the district school until sixteen years of age and then spent two years at the Marion high school, after which he taught five years, between his teaching attending the Free Will

Baptist College in Ridgeville two years. In company with his brother John Mr. Wood bought two hundred acres of land in Dudley township, where they spent one year, and then James M. studied medicine a year, after which he purchased an interest in a mercantile business in Larue, where he remained one year and then sold out. He spent two years at the Columbus (Ohio) Medical College, from which he graduated in 1879. He practiced one year in Yelverton, Hardin county, then worked one year in Kenton as clerk for Dr. Rodgers, after which he spent five years as a druggist and practicing physician at Larue, and while living there was appointed postmaster. He then removed to Lincoln, Nebraska, and shortly after returned to Ohio and purchased his present farm in Dudley township. He carries on general farming and pays special attention to dairying, which in the present day is attracting so much attention and returning such large profits. Dr. Wood also keeps up the practice of his profession, in which he has been very successful.

Politically Dr. Wood is a stanch supporter of the interests of the Republican party, and has been an active worker for the same. He is a public-spirited and useful citizen, the friend of progress and every cause tending toward the advancement and betterment of humanity. He stands high in his profession and is a member of Hardin County Medical Society. His farm is one mile long, and it faces the Kenton pike road just east of Hepburn. He has twenty-five registered Jersey cows in his herd for dairy purposes. His barn, which is the largest in Dudley township, is ninety feet long, with a silo that will hold a one hundred and fifty-ton crop and his barn holds one hundred and fifty tons of hay. He is using modern methods and has made a special study of scientific farming, so that his judgment is considered very good on all agricultural matters. He carries on his farm as a business proposition and reaps from it the maximum of profit. He is highly respected in the community and well known. Dr. Wood is a member of Lodge No. 463, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of Larue, also of the Maccabees of Hepburn.

Dr. Wood married Lucy Potter, who was born July 13, 1859, on her father's farm, daughter of Josiah Potter, who died at the age of eighty-three years, December 9, 1891. Mr. Potter was a native of Johnstown, New York, born in 1807. He was a pioneer of Dudley township, settling there in 1849; in 1844 he located in Wyandot county, Ohio, where he lived about five years. He made the trip west with a horse and wagon, bringing his wife and two children. He was a tanner by trade and his wife made mittens and gloves during their trip, in which way they made some money along the way. The mittens and gloves were made of tanned hide, which he tanned by hand. Mr. Potter sent his products to market by way of the lakes for many years, and the trip required weeks, so that he was some time realizing on his sales at times. In 1832 he married Mary Ann Mills, who died in 1868, at the age of fifty-two years. Besides Mrs. Wood their children who still survive are: William, a farmer of Minnesota; Sophronia, wife of W. Kastor, of Washington township; Mary Jane, wife of Isaac Hoyt, of Kenton; Charles F., a farmer of Minnesota. Mrs. Wood is the youngest. She

is a member of the United Brethren church and is president of the Ladies' Aid Society. She is a member of the Maccabees of Hepburn and the order of Eastern Star at Larue. Dr. Wood and his wife became the parents of children as follows: Mamie E., a gifted artist, wife of G. Vanatta, of Kenton, who has three children, Keith, Rex and Alice; Aubrey Hampton, a farmer and justice of the peace of Dudley township, married Bertha Drew and they have two children, Madison F. and Esther A.; and Anna B., who is well educated in music and has been a music teacher, is now attending school in Ada. Dr. Wood is the only physician living in Dudley township, and he has a large practice.

Ephraim E. Smith, a retired farmer living at Hepburn, Ohio, was born in Dudley township, Hardin county, Ohio, January 19, 1846. He is a son of Nathan and Mary Kiser (McLane) Smith, and grandson of Edward and Jennie (Shaefer) Smith. Edward Smith was a native of Virginia, a son of Thomas and Jennie (Remey) Smith. The father of Thomas Smith married Jennie, daughter of the well known Lord Fairfax, of Fairfax Court House, Virginia, descendant of the English family. Some of the Smiths took part in the Revolution.

Nathan Smith was born at Zanesville, Ohio, April 20, 1818, and was reared on a farm, receiving his education in the public schools. He followed farming and stock raising all his active life, and is now living retired at the age of ninety-two years. He bought a tract of land and cleared it, and has now one of the largest farms in Dudley township; he also operated a sawmill, one of the first in the township. He belongs to the Methodist church, and is now a Republican, having once been a member of the "Know nothing" party. He has voted for every president since casting his vote in 1840 for Harrison, and is the oldest voter in the township. His wife, who was born in 1826, is still living, and they are well known throughout the community, it being a rare thing to find a couple who have lived together so many years and have both attained a venerable old age. She is a daughter of Ephraim C. McLane, a native of Pennsylvania who removed to Ohio when a young man, and became a colonel of militia from Muskingum county. He died July 21, 1861, at the age of sixty-two years, a devout Christian and ready for death. He married Nancy Craig, who died at the age of ninety-four years, and they made their home in Dudley township, Hardin county. Nathan's father, Edward Smith, built the second log house in what is now Zanesville, Ohio. The six children of Mr. and Mrs. Smith are: Nancy J., widow of George Bannig; Ephraim E.; Elizabeth A. Hastings, of Pleasant Hill, Missouri; J. S. Smith, Jewell, Iowa, vice president of bank there; Catherine S., the wife of Theo. McHenry, of Larue, Ohio; H. C. Smith, of Jewell, Iowa, president of First National Bank there.

Ephraim E. Smith remained at home and attended school and when eighteen years of age enlisted in company I, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Ohio Volunteers, and served three years, being mustered out in 1865. He took part in the Virginia campaign and participated in the battles at Antietam, Harpers Ferry, Halltown and many others.

He had a narrow escape at one time from a bullet which passed through his clothes. Returning home Mr. Smith spent a year on the home farm and then moved to Iowa, where he began working on the railroad between Boone and Omaha, and remained in this work two years; later he worked a year for the Union Pacific Railway Company and became sick so he returned home. He followed farming for two years and then removed to Larue, where he was engaged in mercantile business four years. He sold his interest in this business and carried on farming until 1892, when he came to Hepburn and erected the elevator now owned by F. Laubis, end engaged in the flour business. He helped organize the Flour Mill Exchange of Mount Victory, and in 1895, through the speculation of his partner lost his total investment of nine thousand dollars. He then traded stock for a general merchandise store, which he carried on a year, and engaged in farming. He was a successful and industrious business man, and has now retired from active life. He owns two large farms in Dudley township. Mr. Smith is a prominent and influential citizen, actively interested in public affairs, and is a stanch Republican, although he has never cared for public office, being too much occupied with his business affairs.

Mr. Smith has been a member of the Masonic Order since 1868, and is affiliated with Kenton Blue Lodge and Royal Arch Chapter. He is one of the charter members of Hepburn Lodge of Knights of Pythias, and belongs to Kenton Post, Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. Smith married Mary Outland, born October 26, 1848, daughter of Thomas and Eliza (Freer) Outland, who settled in Dudley township in 1864. Thomas Outland's father, Josiah Outland, was a native of North Carolina, and married Miss Kiseoh Gatar. Thomas Outland was a farmer in Logan county, Ohio, but moved to Hardin county, in 1864, where he died in 1875 at the age of sixty-two years; his widow died in 1877, at the age of sixty-five years. Mrs. Smith is a member of the Methodist church and the Ladies' Aid Society. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have two children, Warren H., born in 1873, and Jennie C., born in 1876. Warren is a farmer, married Blanch Morrison, and they have two children, Berkley M. and Mary Bernardine. Jennie married John H. Clark, an attorney of Marion, Ohio, and they have one child, Gladys Irene.

George A. Lingo.—A well-to-do young business man of Hepburn, George Alvin Lingo was born on the old family homestead in Dudley township, Hardin county, on the 7th of May, 1887. He is a son of Alvin and Clara V. (Shark) Lingo, both natives of that township, whose useful lives are sketched in connection with the biography of James Lingo found elsewhere in this work. Mr. Lingo's maternal grandfather, Simon Shark, who was a native son of West Virginia, settled in Madison county as a boy and in 1863 located in Dudley township, this county. He married Miss Maria Wiggle, daughter of Hiram Wiggle, an old and substantial farmer of the neighborhood, his wife dying in 1896 at the age of sixty-seven years.

The boyhood of George A. Lingo was spent on his father's farm, and he attended school until he was seventeen years of age, continuing

PIONEER HOME OF RUDOLPH, MATILDA, JOHN AND JACOB DEPPELLER

JOHN DEPPELLER

MATILDA DEPPELLER

JACOB DEPPELLER

his agricultural pursuits on the old homestead place until 1907, and for four years he traveled in the west. In the year named he removed to Hepburn, assisting his brother James in the hardware business. He is energetic and industrious, is a thorough business man and stands high in the moral estimation of the community. In Masonry he is identified with the lodge at Larue, Marion county, and his politics have always been Republican.

On July 9, 1909, Mr. Lingo married Miss Edith Ellen Clement, who was born April 15, 1885, and is a daughter of Charles C. and Margaret (Hunter) Clement of Hepburn. Mrs. Lingo's father is a painter and mason by trade and, at the age of forty-two, is an energetic and respected citizen of that town. Her grandfather, George Clement, was a boy when he came to the community with his parents and settled on what became known as the old Clement place north of Hepburn. He married Mary Ann Armstrong, of a family whose members were pioneers of Dudley township. The maternal grandfather, John Hunter, is living at Kenton at the age of seventy years, and his wife is still spared to him, aged sixty-three. Mr. Lingo and his kife are popular socially and highly esteemed for their reliable traits of character.

John Deppeller is one of the agriculturists of Washington township and a son of one of Hardin county's early pioneers, Rudolph Deppeller. The father was a native of Switzerland, born August 8, 1800, in Canton of Aargau, and in journeying to the United States in 1816 he spent sixteen weeks sailing on the ocean from Amsterdam to Philadelphia. He was bound out for four years on a farm near Philadelphia to a farmer to pay his passage to America. His first home in this country was at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he learned the shoe maker's trade, and he worked at that avocation more or less during the remainder of his life. From Philadelphia Mr. Deppeller moved to Wyandot county, Ohio, in 1835, where he made shoes for the Wyandot Indians, and on the 19th of November, 1847, he arrived in that part of Hardin county now known as Washington township, here purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of wild land. Building him a log cabin, the typical home of the pioneers, he began clearing the land, alternating this work with shoe making and mending, and after a few years he sold eighty acres of his tract, the remaining eighty being now the home of his son John, and it is under a splendid state of cultivation.

Rudolph Deppeller married Matilda Blunden, a native daughter of Fairfield county, Ohio, born August 28, 1825, and two sons, John and Jacob, were born to them, the younger Jacob being now a resident of the state of Kansas. On the 20th of September, 1877, Rudolph Deppeller was called from this life and his widow survived him many years, dying on March 28, 1892. They were loved and honored in the community where they had so long lived and labored being revered for their true worth of character.

John Deppeller, who owns the old Deppeller homestead in Washington township, was born in Wyandot county, May 4, 1847, and was therefore but six months old when the family became residents of Har-

din county. In the district schools of his home community he obtained a good education and at an early age began teaching, but as his health gave way he was obliged to abandon that profession for the farm, and he has been successful as an agriculturist. For five years he served Washington township well and faithfully as clerk, and he has also served on the school board. He is a member of the Patrons of Husbandry, and is an efficient worker for the order. Mr. Deppeller was married May 5, 1892, to Matilda, a daughter of Jonathan and Sydney J. Packer.

Jacob Deppeller, the younger son of Rudolph and Matilda (Blunden) Deppeller was born on the farm now owned by his brother John, March 3, 1853. He attended the common schools in his home district, traveling over bad roads a distance of two miles daily. He also assisted with the farm work using a team of oxen. When a young man he spent some time as a clerk in a store, and then in order to prepare himself for teaching attended the Ada Normal (as it was then called) and taught several terms of common school. In the fall of 1873 Mr. Deppeller went to San Jose, California, to attend the State Normal there and to prepare himself to teach in the common schools of that state. He received a state certificate and became a county examiner and taught several terms of school. In the fall of 1879 he returned to Ohio, taught a winter term in the home school and then went to Columbus to take a business course. Going then to Denver, Colorado, he there completed a course in assaying in minerals and metals and joined the mining company of Captain Jack Crawford the "Poet Scout" and went with them to New Mexico where they prospected until the Apache Indians drove them out. Mr. Deppeller next went with a government surveying party that worked in Colorado until winter storms closed operations when he began clerking in a bank and store for Archulettas, in Conejos, Colorado.

Returning to Ohio he was united in marriage with Miss Jennie, eldest daughter of Jacob and Adeline Obenour on January 16, 1883. Mr. Deppeller then helped to farm the home place during the winter months teaching school in Washington county, Kansas. He has lived in Kansas a number of years, at one time being employed in an abstract and title office and then in the county recorder's office, later being made deputy recorder. Following a change in officials he then became assistant cashier in a bank. In October, 1905, after his return from a visit to his old Ohio home, he became connected with the county treasurer's office and here spent four years as deputy. In the fall of 1908 he was elected to the office of county treasurer assuming his duties in October of 1909.

Frank J. Laubis.—The leading citizen of the village of Hepburn, Ohio, and proprietor of its only business industry, was born in Goshen township, Hardin county, Ohio, January 9, 1870. His father, Reinhart Laubis, was born in Germany, and came with his parents, Frank and Regina (Zuckswort) Laubis, to America, at the age of seven years. Frank Laubis was a shoemaker by trade, and one of the earliest settlers in Goshen township, where he died; his widow died in 1882. They built a log cabin and set to work to clear and cultivate their farm.

Reinhart Laubis, who has now reached the age of sixty-seven years, has been a farmer all his life and carried on the old homestead after the death of his father; he became one of the most thrifty and prosperous farmers of the vicinity. He is a member of the Lutheran church, and though and ardent Democrat never desired public office. Reinhart Laubis married Mary Breidentein, who died in 1877; her parents were natives of Germany and she was born in Goshen township. To this union were born children as follows: Catherine, wife of William Feister, a farmer of Goshen township; Elizabeth, wife of D. H. Bunce, of Kenton, Ohio; Frank J.; Jacob, foreman for the T. & O. C. Railway Company; Ella, wife of H. Heile, of Kenton, Ohio, and Lena, wife of Albert Rogers, a farmer of Pleasant township. Reinhart Laubis married for his second wife Catherine, daughter of Abraham and Catherine (Kemmer) Kreinbell both now deceased. To this union were born children as follows: John, a farmer at Forest, Ohio; David, a carpenter at Grants, Ohio; Edward, of Goshen township; Harry at home; and Susan, Nettie and Carrie at home.

Frank J. Laubis attended school until fourteen years of age, worked out three years and then worked at home on his father's farm. At the age of nineteen he began shipping hay on his own account, locating at Larue; through the fault of his partner he failed in business and returned home. After working out by the day for two years he was able to save sufficient money to again establish himself in business in a small way, and has since been actively engaged in hay, grain and stock shipping at Hepburn, where he owns a large elevator. He is one of the largest shippers in the vicinity, and has met with financial success. This enterprise is the main support of the village of Hepburn, and Mr. Laubis is considered an enterprising, valuable citizen. He has paid close attention to his business interests, building up his business by untiring industry and thrift.

Mr. Laubis is a Democrat in political views and takes an active interest in public affairs, although on account of his extensive business he does not care to fill public office. He is a member of the United Brethren church at Hepburn, where he is a trustee and treasurer. He is also affiliated with Hopkin Lodge No. 619, Knights of Pythias, of Hepburn, and with Lodge No. 157, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of Kenton.

In 1894 Mr. Laubis married Emma Blanker, born December 18, 1877, daughter of George and Elizabeth (Althomer) Blanker, among the oldest settlers of the county; Mr. Blanker died in 1884, and his widow survives him, at the age of sixty years. Mrs. Laubis is a member of the Reformed church, and also belongs to the Pythian Sisters, being most excellent chief of Hepburn Lodge. Mr. Laubis and his wife have been blessed with children as follows: Earl, born January 10, 1896; Margaret, who died at the age of eight years; Russell, born September 5, 1902; and Carvin, born December 28, 1904.

William W. Durbin.—Among the citizens of Kenton, Ohio, to become prominent throughout the state is William W. Durbin, who

received the appointment, through Governor Harmon, April 1, 1909, to the penitentiary board of Columbus. Mr. Durbin is well known as a prominent Democrat, and has for many years been active in party interests. He is a successful and prominent business man, and has become known throughout many parts of the country as an entertainer in the line of magic and mystery, having gained a wide reputation as a magician of wonderful powers, whose unparallelled feats have been the marvel of all who have seen them.

Mr. Durbin was born in Kenton, September 29, 1866, the only son of William W. and Margaret (Lipold) Durbin. Mr. Durbin, Jr., was educated in the public schools of his native city, which he attended until about 1882, when he entered the employ of the Champion Iron Company and learned the trade of a coremaker, which he followed some two years. He then read law with Judge A. B. Johnson, and in June, 1886, was appointed to a position in the treasury department at Washington. He attended the National Law University in the evenings, and in 1888 graduated therefrom. He was admitted to the bar in Ohio in June, 1888, and took a post-graduate course in law. On March 25, 1890, Mr. Durbin resigned his position in Washington. He had been promoted to the post of examiner of claims in the office of the second auditor of the United States Treasury.

In 1890 Mr. Durbin married Mary L. Danaher, daughter of Thomas and Ann Danaher, of Washington, D. C. Retiring from public office, Mr. Durbin entered into the practice of his profession in Kenton, and engaged in collecting claims of officers of the late war. In 1902 Mr. Durbin became manager and treasurer of the Scioto Sign Company, and since he became connected with same the business has largely increased. He is a man of great business ability and acumen, and has been interested at various times in several different enterprises.

Since attaining his majority Mr. Durbin has taken an active interest in political matters, and served as a member of the board of education from 1891 to 1894, the youngest man ever elected to this office. He has been chairman of the Eighth County Democratic Committee, was at one time chairman of the State Democratic Committee and has been one of the leading Democrats in the state. He is a natural organizer, and has given efficient service to his party and also to the public while serving in their interests. He was a candidate on the ticket with Governor Harmon for state auditor, and ran fifty thousand ahead of his ticket, although he was defeated. He was closely identified with the election of Harmon, and is held in high esteem by his fellows. Mr. Durbin has a large circle of friends, and they appreciate his many good qualities. He is a man of generous nature and high character, and has the faculty of keeping the friends he has won, being very popular with all classes of men. Mr. Durbin is a member of the Knights of Pythias, having joined the order while in Washington, and has served as chancellor commander of his lodge. In 1902 he joined the Elks, and has been three times elected to the office of exalted ruler.

Mr. Durbin has two sons, Francis W., born in 1891, and Thomas Andrew, born in 1894.

Peter Major Duff, a prominent farmer and auctioneer of Hepburn, Ohio, was born May 14, 1866, at Washington Court House, Ohio, a son of Peter Duff. Peter Duff, Sr. carried on his trade of wagon-maker in Fayette county, Ohio, where he died when Peter M. was a child. He married Mary Ann Purwell, who survives him, and has now reached the age of sixty-two years. They became the parents of children as follows: George W., minister and auctioneer at Springfield, Ohio; Silas, a carpenter of Kenton; William, an oil refiner, living at Lima, Ohio; Peter M.; Nancy, wife of Charles Burk, a tank builder at Carey, Illinois; and Charles, who died in infancy. After the death of Mr. Duff his widow married K. B. Cole, a retired blacksmith, and they now reside at Ohio City, Ohio. Mr. Duff was a prominent and highly respected citizen, and served as a justice of the peace.

The boyhood days of Peter M. Duff were spent at home, and he attended the public schools of his native county until fifteen years old, after which he worked at farming until twenty. For two years he followed teaming, worked on a railroad two years, and in 1872 opened a meat market at Ridgeway. Later he engaged in the same business at Hepburn, but sold his market and engaged in the butchering business which he followed until 1904; during this time he took up the calling of auctioneer, which he has followed with success since. Mr. Duff has gained a high reputation as a auctioneer, in Hardin county and also in other parts of the state, being kept fairly busy at the business. During 1908 he officiated at one hundred and twenty sales, and during 1909 at one hundred and seventeen.

Mr. Duff is the manager of a summer resort and amusement park at Hepburn, and aside from his auctioneering business has charge of a farm adjoining Hepburn. He takes an active interest in public affairs, is a Democrat in political views, and has served two terms as township assessor and two terms as a member of the school board. He is a member of Hepburn Lodge No. 619, Knights of Pythias, having held nearly all the offices in the same, belongs to Lodge No. 234, Knighted Order of Tented Maccabees, and to Hepburn Lodge, No. 301, Pythian Sisters.

On July 21, 1886, Mr. Duff married Mina B. Hunt, born at Ridgeway, Ohio, December 29, 1865, daughter of Thomas C. and Elizabeth (Rayburn) Hunt. Mr. Hunt came to Ridgeway, Ohio, from the state of New York, and was a cooper by trade; he died there in 1870. He served through the Civil war in Company E, Sixth Regiment, from Ohio, was disabled and re-enlisted, joining Company K of the Forty-second Infantry. He lost his health through exposure, and was discharged April 4, 1866. Upon returning to Ridgeway he was married to Elizabeth, daughter of William and Amanda (Hunt) Rayburn; Mr. Rayburn was born in 1814 and his wife July 4, 1818. Mrs. Hunt died May 21, 1908, aged seventy-three years. Besides Mrs. Duff, Mr. Hunt and his wife had two daughters and one son, namely: Cynthia, wife of William Davis, a farmer of Logan county; Mary, wife of J. Wilkes, of West Mansfield; and William R., a farmer. Mrs. Duff is a prominent member of the Pythian Sisters, of Hepburn, and is now serving in the office of outer guard, having passed all the chairs. She is also a member

of the Maccabees and the Ladies' Aid Society, holding the office of lieutenant-commander in the former. She is a member of the United Brethren church at Hepburn. To Mr. Duff and his wife have been born children as follows: George Horton, born in 1889, a clerk in Hepburn, Edgar Duff, born in 1892; Pearl Carlos, in 1894; Charles Lester, in 1898; Ethel May, in 1891; and Avil Gladys in 1896.

MADISON M. THOMPSON.—Prominently identified with the leading interests of the progressive city of Kenton as its mayor, M. M. Thompson is held in high esteem as a man and a citizen, and his influence and assistence are always sought in behalf of undertakings for the public good. A son of Robert Thompson, he was born, March 28, 1856, in Union county, Ohio, where his grandfather Thompson was a pioneer farmer, migrating to that part of the state from Virginia.

Robert Thompson was born on the homestead which his father redeemed from the wilderness in Union county, Ohio, and was there brought up and educated. He was there engaged in agricultural pursuits until about 1860, when he came with his family to Hardin county, locating on a farm at Mount Victory, where he improved a good estate, and was employed in tilling the soil the remainder of his active life. He married Miranda Longbrake, who was born in Ohio, where her parents were early settlers, coming from New York state. Of their family of four sons and two daughters all but one grew to years of maturity, Madison M., the special subject of this brief biographical notice, being the firstborn.

About four years old when his parents moved to Mount Victory, M. M. Thompson there received a common school education, and as a youth assisted his father in the care of the farm. When ready to begin life on his own account, he bought land in Dudley township, Hardin county, and was there employed as a tiller of the soil about four years. Embarking then in business as a general merchant at Mount Victory, Mr. Thompson was appointed postmaster in 1885, by President Cleveland. Disposing of his business at the end of four years he returned to his farm, and in 1890 was elected county auditor. This important position Mr. Thompson filled satisfactorily for six years, after which he, in 1897, resumed the management of his farming estate. In 1906, desirous of giving his children good educational advantages, he became a resident of Kenton, retaining, however, the ownership of his valuable farm of two hundred and ten acres lying but eight miles from Kenton. In 1907 Mr. Thompson was elected to his present position as mayor of the city, and in the management of municipal affairs has been very successful.

Mr. Thompson married, on the 9th of April, 1881, Fannie L. Clemons, a daughter of Rev. James C. and Filoma (Little) Clemons, who settled in Green county, Ohio, in pioneer days. Mr. Clemons later became a minister and preached many years in Northern Ohio at different charges, including Prospect in Marion county, where Mrs. Thompson lived at the time of her marriage. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, two of whom, daughters, died in infancy, while seven are liv-

John P. Dunbar.

ing, namely: Roy, Grover, Clyde, Naomi, Byron M., Dewey and Margaret. A stanch Democrat in his political views, Mr. Thompson is an active worker in the interests of his party. He is a member of the Ancient Order of Free and Accepted Masons, and Lodge No. 157, B. P. O. E., of Kenton.

JOHN POWER DURBIN, who died at his home in the village of Foraker, Hardin county, on the 11th of April, 1905, was one of the successful business men and honored citizens of this county, and he had much to do with the development and upbuilding of the village of Foraker, where he opened the first mercantile establishment and where he continued to be actively engaged in business for nearly a quarter of a century. He served as a gallant soldier of the Union in the Civil war and as a citizen and business man he showed the same loyalty that prompted him to thus go forth in defense of the integrity of the nation. His entire life was ordered upon a high plane of integrity and honor, and at all times were vouchsafed to him the fullest measure of popular confidence and esteem. He was a native of Ohio and a scion of one of the honored pioneer families of the old Buckeye state, on which score further interest attaches to his career as one of the representative citizens of Hardin County.

John Power Durbin was born in Knox county, Ohio, on the 4th of January, 1844, and was a son of Rev. John and Sarah (Bradie) Durbin, of whose seven daughters and five sons he was the youngest son. One brother and three sisters are still living: Samuel is a representative farmer and influential citizen of Allen county, this state; and the three sisters are married and reside in Ohio. Rev. John Durbin was a clergyman of the Methodist Episcopal church and did effective service in the same for many years. He also became the owner of a good farm in Knox county, which was the place of his birth, and there he continued to reside until his death. His wife died before the subject of this memoir had attained to years of maturity. John P. Durbin was reared on the home farm and secured a good common school education. He continued to be associated with the work of the farm until the climacteric period of the Civil war, when he tendered his aid in defense of the Union. He enlisted in a regiment of volunteer infantry raised in his home county and with the same proceeded to the front. He was severely wounded in the battle of Vicksburg, and by reason of the disability thus entailed he was given an honorable discharge. He returned to his home and after recuperation re-enlisted, becoming a member of the Twentieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which command he continued in active service until the close of the war, and with which he participated in many of the important battles marking the progress of the great fratricidal conflict. He ever manifested a deep interest in his old comrades and signified the same by his membership in the Grand Army of the Republic.

After the close of the war Mr. Durbin came to Hardin county, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits. When the attractions of the great Kansas prairies were exploited in the early days, he removed to that state, where he secured a tract of land and began farming. Like many

others of the early settlers he met with much loss through the depredations of the grasshoppers and encountered other discouraging conditions, so that he finally left the Sunflower state and made his way back to Ohio. His resources were so reduced that he found it expedient to make the major portion of the journey on a freight train. He returned to Hardin county and located in Kenton, where he soon afterward became associated with Benjamin Connor in the opening of a general store, which they conducted under partnership alliance for some time. Mr. Durbin then disposed of his interest in the business and removed to the embryonic village of Foraker, as he had the prescience to realize that here would eventually be developed a good trading center. He erected the first store building in the village and here he continued to conduct a general mercantile enterprise for the long period of twenty-two years. He was very successful and built up a large and representative trade, extending throughout the fine section of country normally tributary to the village. He made also judicious investments in farm land in this county, and his widow still owns one farm and other properties in the village in McDonald township.

Mr. Durbin was loyal and progressive as a citizen and ever gave his influence and cooperation in the promotion of enterprises and measures tending to advance the civic and maternal welfare of the community. While never ambitious for public office, he was an uncompromising advocate of the principles and policies of the Republican party and, as a man of strong mentality and broad ken, he was well fortified in his opinions and convictions. He was a charter member of the lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in the city of Kenton, and continued his active affiliations with this fraternal order until his death. He was a zealous and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church and contributed most liberally to the erection of the attractive church edifice of this denomination in Foraker. He was also one of the principal contractors in the building of this church. Mr. Durbin was a man of unassuming personality, but his sincerity, loyalty and impregnable integrity were patent to all, and he never lacked the inviolable confidence and esteem of those with whom he came in contact in the various relations of life. He was true to himself and thus could not "be false to any man." He made his life and labors count for good, and it is most consonant that in this history of the county that so long represented his home should be incorporated this brief tribute to his memory.

On the 16th of November, 1866, Mr. Durbin was united in marriage to Miss Harriet Wetherell, a daughter of one of the sterling pioneers of Hardin county, and of this union were born two sons and one daughter. The sons died in infancy and the daughter, Maude, is now the wife of W. A. Shoemaker, of Foraker. Mrs. Durbin, a woman of gracious and gentle personality, was summoned to the life eternal on the 25th of March, 1895, at the age of forty-six years.

On the 24th of December, 1899, Mr. Durbin contracted a second marriage, being then united to Mrs. Loretta Emmons, who was born and reared in Hardin county and who is a daughter of John and Mary (Crooks) Condon, both of whom were born in Richland county, this

state, being members of sterling pioneer families of that section of the state. Mr. Condon and his wife now reside in Wyandot county, where he is a prosperous farmer and influential citizen. Mrs. Durbin is the eldest of the five children, all of whom are living: Irving, John and Purl are all successful representatives of the agricultural industry in Wyandot county, this state, and Sarah remains at the parental home. Mr. and Mrs. Durbin became the parents of one son, Jay Paul, who was born on the 8th of November, 1900, and who proves a devoted little companion to his widowed mother. Mrs. Durbin has shown much administrative and executive ability as a business woman and since the death of her honored husband she has most effectively managed the estate, besides which she serves as postmaster at Foraker, in which office she succeeded her husband, who had been incumbent of the office for many years, gives a general supervision to her farming interests and other properties. In the midst of these exactions she also takes a deep and active interest in church work and is especially prominent in the affairs of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, in which she has given much service as a devoted worker. She is well known to the leading members of this noble organization and is one of the thirty delegates from Ohio to the world's convention of the same, in Glasgow, Scotland, beginning on the 4th of June, 1910. She is a woman of fine intellectual and social gifts, of most gracious and winning personality, and her circle of friends is limited only by that of her acquaintance. In addition to her interests in Hardin county she is the owner of a valuable ranch in Colfax county, New Mexico, and there she passes more or less time each year, finding recreation and also giving her personal supervision to the direction of the work. She is one of the most zealous and devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal church in Foraker and is a leader in various departments of its collateral benevolences and charities.

On November 16, 1882, Mrs. Durbin was united in marriage to Louis Emmons only son of Jackson and Sarah Emmons, one of the most prominent families of Hardin county. To this union two daughters were born both are married, Lelia the older, married Ray Oglesbee, a prominent citizen of Foraker where they reside. Mozelle the younger married W. W. Born of Kenton, who has been manager of the Western Union Telegraph office for fourteen years. Louis Emmons died April 2, 1896, aged forty years.

Alfred G. Wessling, one of the leading business men of Kenton, Ohio, and the state manager of the American Farm Produce Company, was born in Chicago, Illinois, August 16, 1869, and is a son of Henry and Wilhelmina (Muehlke) Wessling. His father was a native of Lake county, Illinois, born about twenty miles distant from the city of Chicago, and after his marriage became a resident of the city, engaging in the occupation of teamster. He died in 1883, and his widow still resides in Chicago. Mrs. Wessling was born at Deerfield, Illinois. Henry Wessling and his wife had seven children, of whom Alfred G. is the fourth in order of birth and the second son.

The boyhood of Alfred G. Wessling was spent in Chicago, where he attended the public schools. He located in Kenton, Ohio, in 1890, and engaged in the manufacture of butter and cheese, whiche he continued until 1905, when he sold out to the American Farm Produce Company, becoming the firm's state manager. He is the owner of the Scioto Valley Stock Farm, of two hundred and forty acres, located six miles east of Kenton, where he raises thoroughbred Holstein cattle, having one hundred and twelve head at the present time. He owns two other farms in the same locality, and raises the grain to feed his stock. He is an able business man, and conducts his farms in the same able and profitable manner he does his other affairs.

On April 9, 1890, Mr. Wessling married Elizabeth, daughter of G. A. Wendt, of Chicago, and they have one daughter, Maybell. Mr. Wessling is a prominent Mason, having taken thirty-two degrees in the order, and is affiliated with the Shrine, Knight Templars, etc. He is also a member of Lodge No. 157, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is a trustee in the Methodist Episcopal church of Kenton, and politically is a Republican. He served five years as a member of the board of education, and takes an active interest in public affairs. He is well known in the vicinity of Kenton, his business connections making it necessary for him to meet many people, and all who have done business with him have had occasion to feel satisfied with his uprightness and integrity.

Dr. George J. Carter.—Conspicuous among the leading business men of Kenton is Dr. G. J. Carter, president of the Champion Iron Company, who is a self-made man in every sense implied by the term and especially worthy of representation in a work of this character. He was born October 9, 1853, in Lenawee county, Michigan. His father, Richard Carter, emigrated from Ireland to the United States when young, settling in Michigan, where he married Mary Boutton, who was born, of Scotch-English parentage, in Michigan.

Beginning the battle of life for himself at the early age of ten years, G. J. Carter did chores for his board, in the meantime attending school. At the age of twelve years he went to Noble county, Indiana, where he secured work on a farm by the day or month, with the privilege of attending the winter terms of school. In the winter of 1869 he entered the employ of Dr. A. Gants, of Ligonier, Indiana, working for his board and clothes and attending school about five months of the year, remaining with the Doctor until 1871. Going then to New York state, Mr. Carter obtained work on a farm in Camden, Oneida county, where he attended school a part of the time, the remainder of the year being employed in the woods or in a saw mill. A diligent, faithful student, he obtained a good education, and in the winter of 1872 and 1873 he taught school in Indiana, and in the latter year began the study of dentistry at Ligonier, Indiana, remaining there until 1875. Entering then the dental department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, Mr. Carter completed the course being graduated in June, 1876. Locating immediately in Kenton, Hardin county, Ohio, Dr. Carter was here successfully engaged in the practice of his profession until August,

1890, when he was made secretary of the Champion Iron Company. Serving ably in that capacity, he was elected president of the company in 1894, and has since been influentially promoting its interests, it being now one of the leading industrial organizations of the county. By his untiring industry, sagacity, and wise investments, Dr. Carter has accumulated a handsome property by his own efforts, owning considerable real estate of value and two fine farms.

Dr. Carter married, in 1876, Pyrena Pancake, a native of Ligonier, Indiana. She passed to the higher life in 1902, leaving three children, namely: Lloyd D., Ida and Clara. The Doctor is a member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has taken the Knights Templar degree. An active member of the Republican party, he has held various municipal offices, having been a member of the Kenton School Board twelve years and a member of the Equalization Board in 1900.

Clarence M. Cessna.—A cultivated and highly talented man, well versed in the intricacies of law, Clarence M. Cessna, of Kenton, is well known as one of the active and able lawyers of Hardin county. A native of this county, he was born, June 29, 1872, in Cessna township, a son of Zaccheus Cessna, and grandson of William Cessna, who came from Pennsylvania to Ohio in 1835, and at once located, as a pioneer settler, in Holmes county and later in the same year moved to Hardin county, taking up land in Cessna township.

Born in Pennsylvania, Zaccheus Cessna was but nine months old when brought by his parents to Cessna township. He was there brought up and educated, and in course of time became one of the prominent farmers of that locality, living there until his death, which occurred when he was fifty-eight years of age. He married Mary M. Hagerman, who was born in Richland county, Ohio, a daughter of Samuel Hagerman, one of the early pioneers of this state. She survived her husband, and now resides in Kenton. Of the family of ten children, five sons and five daughters, born of their union, all but one grew to years of maturity, C. M., the special subject of this sketch, being the seventh child, and third son in succession of birth.

After leaving the common schools, C. M. Cessna attended the Ohio Northern University at Ada, and subsequently taught school awhile, in the meantime reading law. A diligent and intelligent scholar, at the end of three years, in 1899, he was admitted to the Ohio bar, and at once began the practice of his profession in Toledo, where he remained until 1902. Coming then to Kenton, Mr. Cessna has since been actively identified with the best interests of this city, and as junior member of the well-known firm of Stickle & Cessna has carried on an extensive and lucrative legal practice. Fraternally Mr. Cessna is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and politically he is a firm supporter of the principles of the Republican party. He is ever interested in everything pertaining to the welfare of the general public, and as mayor of Kenton for one term, beginning in January, 1906, rendered excellent service to his fellow citizens.

Mr. Cessna married, February 26, 1900, Lula Whitmore, daughter

of John and Jane Whitmore, Hardin county, and into their pleasant home two children have been born, namely: Dwight C. and Clara G.

Hon. W. T. Cessna, formerly a prominent attorney and business man and now living in Kenton, Ohio, retired from active life, is supposed to be the first white child now living born in the county, his birth occurring August 7, 1836. He is a son of Jonathan Cessna, a native of Bedford county, Pennsylvania, who came to Hardin county first in 1829, returned to Pennsylvania and brought his family in 1833, locating two and a half miles west of what is now the county seat. He was a judge seven years and was very active in public affairs. Jonathan's father, also named Jonathan Cessna, was of Huguenot descent.

Jonathan Cessna, father of W. T., married Catherine Boore, a native of Cumberland valley, Pennsylvania, and they became the parents of ten children, five sons and five daughters, W. T. being the eighth child. His boyhood days were spent in his native place, and he received his earliest education in a log schoolhouse west of Kenton. Later he attended the Kenton schools and attended the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, graduating in 1861, in the regular course. He entered Company A, Eighty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry as a private, was promoted to sergeant, second lieutenant, first lieutenant, and adjutant of the regiment in the Eastern army. Receiving his honorable discharge in 1863, he returned home and in the winter of 1864 he entered law school at Ann Arbor, Michigan, and the following year was admitted to the bar at Kenton. In 1865 Mr. Cessna was elected to the office of mayor of the city of Kenton, and reelected in 1866. Mr. Cessna practised law with good success for twenty years. In 1869 he was elected to the legislature, serving two years, and in 1871 was a candidate for nomination for the office of secretary of the state, endorsed by the Ohio legislature, and was a candidate for the state senate. In 1880 he was again elected mayor of Kenton, serving with efficiency and distinction. During his administration the water works were installed in the city.

Mr. Cessna is one of the most prominent and influential citizens of Hardin county, and the citizens have delighted to proffer him the highest honors within their gift, and in every office of public trust he has acquitted himself well, to the satisfaction of all. He is one of the most highly esteemed men in Kenton, and has taken a prominent part in the public affairs of the city. In 1882 Mr. Cessna was elected president of the Pioneers' Association of Hardin county, and erected the pioneer cabin on the fair grounds. About this time he was appointed colonel of the Ohio National Guards (the Seventh Ohio); he was also colonel of the Ohio State Militia. Mr. Cessna has been closely identified with building up the town of Kenton, and has favored and assisted every movement for the public welfare.

In 1873 W. T. Cessna married Alice Teeters, a native of Hardin county, daughter of Alonzo Teeters and a graduate of Glendale College, and member of a prominent family. She died August 9, 1887.

In 1890 W. T. Cessna went to Chicago and for some time dealt in

James. R. Hill & Wife.

real estate, in the building up of what is now known as West Hammond, remaining there five years. He was then elected president of the Colorado & Cripple Creek Mining Companies, also president of two other mining companies situated in Montana, also became vice president of the Big Tin Company, whose mine was located near Helena. He spent ten years in the mountains of Montana, and was also in the mining business in New Mexico about four years, then became candidate for the legislature from Grant and Luna counties, New Mexico, and delivered the declaration address at Fort Bayard in 1894, also several lectures at the normal school in New Mexico.

Among the work which Mr. Cessna has done for the benefit of his native county is the legislation he put through while serving in the legislature for the drainage of Hog Creek Marsh in Hardin county. He fathered the bill to issue bonds for the erection of the Ohio Northern University at Ada. He organized a syndicate for the drainage of the Scioto Marsh and first thought of carrying through this project in the manner adopted. For many years he has served as president of Hardin County Democratic Club.

James R. Hill.—Among the successful farmers of Roundhead township, Hardin county, Ohio, who have now retired from active life is James R. Hill, a native of the township, born December 18, 1835, a son of James and Elizabeth (Richards) Hill. James Hill was born in Trumbull county, Ohio, June 2, 1805, and his father, also named James, was a native of Maryland, who lived to the venerable age of ninety-nine years. In 1810 James Hill, Sr., moved to Logan county, and between 1830 and 1833 located in Roundhead township, Hardin county. Here he spent the remainder of his life, and he and his wife are buried in Pleasant Hill cemetery.

James Hill, Jr., was married three times and was father of ten children. He was reared on a farm and became a successful farmer himself, helping his father clear the home farm and attending school winters when he was a lad. He received his earlier education in the country schools, and then devoted the remainder of his life to farming. He is also buried in Pleasant Hill cemetery.

The childhood of James R. Hill was spent on a farm, and he helped his father develop the farm, attending school winters, and as his father had done before him. He received his earlier education in the country schools and then attended school in Bellefontaine, Ohio. He engaged in teaching in the common schools and later engaged in farming, to which he has since devoted his entire time.

On October 4, 1860, Mr. Hill married Marietta White, who bore him two children: one who died in infancy, and Luella, wife of Robert Ford, of Iowa. Mrs. Hill died November 12, 1868, and on September 18, 1870, Mr. Hill married Elizabeth Goslee, who was born in Hardin county, December 2, 1845, daughter of John and Mary Ann (Kenton) Goslee. To this union six children have been born, namely: two who died in infancy; James V., a student from Columbus, Ohio, and one of the commissioners of Hardin county; Effie A.; Bessie, a teacher in

Allen county, Ohio; and John G., formerly a teacher and now living at home. All are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Pleasant Hill, where Mr. Hill is one of the trustees. He has for many years been an active worker in the church and Sunday school, and has been class leader and superintendent. Politically he is a supporter of the principles of the Democratic party. He is a great worker in the cause of temperance, and helps along any movement for the public welfare. He is a man of stability and public influence, highly respected and universally liked.

Mr. Hill owns one hundred and ninety acres of land in Roundhead township, but has retired from active farming and leaves the work in charge of his son, John G., who is a young man of energy and industry.

Frank L. Damon.—A well known, public spirited and influential citizen of Kenton, Frank L. Damon, the leading furniture and carpet dealer of this part of Hardin county, is carrying on a business that was first established in 1835 by his grandfather, Luther Damon, and later conducted by his father, Warren F. Damon, whom he succeeded. A native of this city, he was born February 10, 1865, coming on both sides of the house from honored New England ancestry.

Born in Massachusetts, Warren F. Damon was but two years of age when, in 1835, he was brought by his parents to Hardin county. He was brought up in Kenton, acquiring his education in the public schools. Succeeding to the business established by his father, he continued here as an undertaker and a furniture dealer until his death, at the age of fifty-four years. He married Dorothy S. Dicus, who was born in New Hampshire seventy-eight years ago, and is now a resident of Kenton. Her father, Timothy Dicus, migrated from his New England home to Ohio when she was about nine years old, locating in Hardin county, where he bought land, and from the dense forest cleared and improved a farm. Of the five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Warren F. Damon but two survive, namely: Mrs. C. W. Oakes, of Indianapolis, Indiana; and Frank L., the special subject of this sketch.

Obtaining a practical education in the public schools, Frank L. Damon early became familiar with the details of business pursuits, and in 1882, at the age of seventeen years, assumed the entire charge of the undertaking and furniture business established by his grandfather, he being in the third generation to conduct this, the longest-established business in Kenton. Fraternally Mr. Damon stands very high in the Masonic order, being a Scottish Rite Mason and a Knight Templar. He likewise belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is active in the Republican ranks, and takes an intelligent interest in municipal affairs, having served for twelve years in official capacities, first as a member of the water works board and later on the board of public service. During his term of office many improvements of value were established, including the paving of the streets, which was of inestimable value to the citizens.

Mr. Damon married in 1887 Mary E. Weaver, a daughter of N. S. and Mary A. Weaver.

J. W. Caine.—Among the business enterprises of Kenton that have helped so materially in the progress and development of the city, the establishment of Nourse & Caine, appropriately located on Detroit street, stands well in the front rank. The house carries a general line of dry goods and notions, and the firm enjoys a good patronage, not only from the residents of Kenton but from the people of the surrounding country. The members of the firm are J. W. Caine and D. B. Nourse.

Mr. Caine was born in Somerset, Perry county, December 13, 1860, and is a son of Isaiah and Caroline C. (Campbell) Caine, both natives of Ohio, who were among the earliest settlers in Perry county. The family of Mrs. Caine came from Baltimore, Maryland, and Mr. Caine's people were from the east and of Irish descent. J. W. Caine is the seventh son and child of his parents, and was reared and educated in his native place, receiving a good education in the common schools. At the age of sixteen years he began working as clerk in a general store at Somerset. He worked in a retail store until January, 1881, and then engaged with a jobbing house at Columbus, Ohio, spending about twenty years traveling as salesman. He spent two years in the dry goods business at Effingham, Illinois, then returned to the road, and continued as a traveling salesman until 1901, when he located in Kenton and formed a partnership with Mr. Nourse. They employ about thirty people, and have one of the most modern and complete establishments of its kind in their part of the state. They carry a good stock and study well the wants of their patrons. Mr. Caine is one of the leading and most influential citizens of Kenton, and in his business dealings has always exhibited the strictest honesty and integrity. He favors the highest principles and is well liked as well as respected by all who know him.

In 1891 Mr. Caine married Hattie Levitt, daughter of Abram and Magdalene (Kuhns) Levitt.

Albert M. Tidd, attorney at law, Kenton, Ohio, belongs to a family that has been identified with this locality since before Hardin county existed; a family that has never sought prominence, but without ostentation of any kind has quietly contributed to the substantial growth and development of the county. The Tidds have paid many thousands of dollars in taxes and have contributed to the work of building roads, drainage systems, and other public improvements, and they refer with pride to the fact that the first white girl baby born in the county was a Tidd—a daughter of Samuel Tidd. Samuel Tidd's settlement here was in 1821, and his first land purchase was one hundred and sixty acres, which has remained in the family for four generations, the old farm having been added to until it now contains three hundred acres.

Hugh Hill Tidd, one of the sons of Samuel and father of Albert M., was born in 1813, on a farm near Bellefontaine in Logan county, Ohio, and was brought by his parents to what is now Hardin county in 1821. Here he grew to manhood and reared a large family. He was twice married. His first wife, Mary (Given) Tidd, was a native of Ross county, Ohio, and a sister of Alexander Given, who was well known

in Hardin county. By this marriage there were eight children, all of whom, with one exception, reached adult age, Albert M. being the seventh child and sixth son.

Albert M. Tidd was born at Roundhead, Hardin county, April 14, 1851. He received his early education in the country schools, later took the scientific course at Ada, Ohio, and spent two years in the National Normal School at Lebanon, this state. And as the foundation for his subsequent work he had the experience of five years as teacher in the schools of Hardin county. While teaching he spent his vacations in the study of law, and in 1876 at Bellefontaine was admitted to the bar. At this time he took up his residence at Marion, Ohio, and engaged in the practice of his profession, in connection with which he found time for newspaper work, in which he has always been more or less interested. While at Marion he was correspondent for a number of Ohio publications including the *Cincinnati Gazette* and *Commercial, Cleveland Herald* and *Columbus Journal*. After a residence of twelve years at Marion he went west and spent six months in Kansas City and six months in Atchison, Kansas. While at the former place he established and edited a daily paper, *The Evening Leader*, which he sold when he went to Atchison. He also practiced law in Kansas. After a year spent there he returned to Kenton, Ohio, which has since been his home, and where he has practiced his profession and in various other ways been actively identified with the town. Among his newspaper work may be mentioned a long article entitled "Kenton, a Thriving City," published some years ago in the *Kenton Democrat*, and he wrote most of the History of Marion County Ohio, published about twenty-five years ago. He has always taken an active interest in politics, and for five years was secretary of the Republican Committee of Hardin county.

Mr. Tidd married, in 1884, Miss Virginia V. Nagle, a daughter of Henry and Asenith Nagle. She, too, is a native of Hardin county and her family were prominent in its early history. Her father built the first brick house in Roundhead township. They have two sons, Clifton H. and Kenneth N., the former assistant manager of a branch of the Huber Manufacturing Company, of Marion, Ohio; the latter, engaged in the shoe business.

For many years Mr. Tidd has been an active and influential member of the Methodist Episcopal church, serving in various official capacities in the church at Kenton, and for the past twelve years has filled the office of treasurer.

William J. Gelhaus.—Among the enterprising and highly respected citizens of Kenton, Ohio, is William J. Gelhaus, chief of the fire department of the city. Mr. Gelhaus was born in Lee county, Illinois, May 4, 1858, and is a son of August and Catherine (Beltz) Gelhaus, natives of Germany. August Gelhaus was a native of Hessen, Germany, and came to America as a young man. He was a cabinet-maker by trade, and engaged in constructing pianos and billiard tables. About 1855 he moved to Illinois and engaged in farming. About 1863 he removed to Hardin county, Ohio, where he engaged in farming near

JANE E. DUNLAP AND MARVIN DUNLAP

Kenton, where he remained until 1867, when he engaged in the grocery business as a member of the firm of Davis & Gelhaus; he followed this business until about 1879, and then retired. He died in 1880, at the age of fifty years. His wife, also a native of Germany, died in 1870, at the age of forty-four years. They were the parents of nine children, of whom five are now living, William J. being the fifth in order of birth.

Mr. Gelhaus was about five years of age at the time his parents located at Kenton, Ohio, where he received his education. When eighteen years of age he became connected with the Kenton Fire Department, then made up of volunteers in the service. He became assistant captain and in 1883, at the time of the reorganization of the department, he became captain, holding that position until 1893, when he assumed his present position at the head of the department; he has held this position a number of years now, and has rendered the city very efficient service.

On February 13, 1882, Mr. Gelhaus married Amelia Terres, a native of Seneca county, Ohio, and reared in Hardin county from the time she was eight years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Gelhaus have four children, namely: Eugene F., Laura, Cleo and Clealus.

Mr. Gelhaus has always taken an active part in public affairs, and is an ardent Democrat. He is well known in Hardin county, and is held in the highest esteem by all, being one of the representative citizens of Kenton. He and his family belong to the Catholic church.

Mrs. Jane E. Dunlap.—Among the enterprising and highly successful business women of Roundhead township, Hardin county, Ohio, is Mrs. Jane E. Dunlap, widow of the late Marvin Dunlap, who passed away February 8, 1892. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Dunlap has successfully cared for her own interests, and owns two hundred acres of rich farming land. Mrs. Dunlap was born in Roundhead township June 19, 1837, a daughter of Rev. David and Sarah (Sheets) Groves. Rev. Groves was a local minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, who was born in Culpeper county, Virginia, and moved from there to Ohio. The young girl was reared on a farm, and when old enough attended the district school of her neighborhood, making such good use of her opportunities and abilities that she was able to teach school, which she continued a few years before her marriage.

In 1857 Jane Groves married Marvin Dunlap, who was a native of Ireland and is a brother of John A. Dunlap. He came to the United States when a boy seven years old. He became a successful farmer and was well liked wherever known. He was honest and industrious, and made his own way in the world. Mr. Dunlap was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Pleasant Hill, where he was a class leader, and his widow is now an active worker in the same church. He was a member of the Masonic order, and politically supported the principles of the Republican party.

Mr. Dunlap and his wife became the parents of four children, as follows: Laura, deceased, wife of William Lehman; Burke, deceased; Eunice, wife of Ed. Stuck, of Marion township; and John, who married Mrs. Anna Wier and resides near the home farm at Harrod, Ohio.

Mr. Ed. Stuck is in charge of the home place. He is a public-spirited, useful citizen and is now serving as one of the trustees of Roundhead township. The farm is in good condition and its appearance attests to its able management. There are two hundred acres of land in the home place.

William Wendt.—Kenton, Ohio, is the location of many flourishing manufacturing concerns, and among the enterprising men at the head of the same is William Wendt, who is manager of the Harris Brick Mills and Elevator. Mr. Wendt was born in Coldspring, Kentucky, October 26, 1861, a son of Fred and Fanny (Worth) Wendt, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Switzerland. Fred Wendt came to America as a young man, locating first in New Jersey and then in Kentucky; he was a millwright by occupation, having learned the trade in his native country. He died at the age of ninety-four years. His widow survives him, now a resident of Newport, Kentucky, and has reached the age of ninety-four years. She came to America as a girl and was married at Newark, New Jersey, in 1836. They were the parents of eleven children, all of whom reached maturity, and William is the youngest of the family.

William Wendt spent his boyhood days in Kentucky and he attended school at Newport, graduating from the high school in 1878; later he attended Queen City Commercial College, from which he graduated in 1879. He came to Kenton, Ohio, in 1884, assuming the position of teller in the Kenton National Bank, which position he held twelve years. He then engaged in the milling and grain business, and took his present position. Mr. Wendt is an intelligent, wide-awake business man, and understands thoroughly every branch of the enterprises under his control. His natural ability and wide experience place him among the leading business men of Kenton.

In 1896 Mr. Wendt married Mabel Harris, daughter of G. H. and Margaret (Letson) Harris, a native of Hardin county. Mr. Wendt and his wife have one son, Harris. Mr. Wendt is a Republican and actively interested in public affairs; he served one term as councilman-at-large. He is a member of the Masonic order and of Lodge No. 157, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He has been a resident of Kenton some twenty-five years, and takes great interest in its progress and welfare. At the celebration of his parents' golden wedding in 1886 the entire family was present, as at that time no deaths had been recorded.

James H. Allen, cashier of the Kenton National Bank, is a man of sterling integrity and character, and holds a place of prominence among the leading citizens of Hardin county. A son of Hezekiah and Polly Allen, he was born January 22, 1859, at Geneseo, Livingston county, New York. His grandfather, John Allen, a native of Loraine, Jefferson county, New York, was of English descent. Hezekiah Allen was born, bred and educated in Jefferson county, New York. Subsequently locating in Geneseo, New York, where he lived for over fifty years, he became attorney of the Wadsworth estate and was a resident of Geneseo

until his death in July, 1887, at the age of sixty-seven years. To him and his wife, whose maiden name was Polly Deniston, of Groveland, New York, three children were born, one of whom died in infancy; one daughter, Elizabeth, now Mrs. R. B. Vallaner, lives at Geneseo, New York; and James H. Allen, the subject of this sketch.

Completing his early education at the Geneseo State Normal School, James H. Allen early developed much business and executive ability. In June, 1886, he came to Kenton, Ohio, and with Asher Letson and Nathan Ahlefeld assisted in organizing the Kenton National Bank, Mr. Asher Letson being elected its first president, Nathan Ahlefeld its vice president and Curtis Wilkin, cashier, and Mr. James H. Allen, bookkeeper and assistant cashier. He held this office until May 9, 1902, when he was elected cashier, a position which he has since filled with great ability and fidelity.

Mr. James H. Allen married, June 15, 1887, Hattie C. Gray, a daughter of Richard and Mary Gray of Geneseo, New York, and they are the parents of two children, James H. Allen, Jr., and Howard Gray Allen, who is now associated with his father as paying teller at the Kenton National Bank. Mr. James H. Allen stands high in the Masonic fraternity, being a thirty-second degree Mason and a Shriner. He has filled the office of high priest in the Chapter, thrice illustrious master in the Council and eminent commander of Kenton Commandery No. 58, Knights Templar. In the year 1906 he was very active in the building of the new Masonic Temple, and was one of the first trustees of the Masonic Temple Association and was a member of that board for several years. He is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, in which he is a past exalted ruler. Religiously Mr. Allen is a member of the First Presbyterian church.

John H. Smick.—One of the prominent lawyers of Kenton, John H. Smick, has been actively employed in the practice of his profession for thirty-four consecutive years in Hardin county, for two terms serving as its prosecuting attorney. A son of the late Solomon S. Smick, he was born, January 29, 1848, in Canton, Stark county, Ohio.

Solomon S. Smick was born, reared and educated in Stark county, for many years being a resident of Canton. He moved to Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 1864, and was there prosperously employed in the agricultural implement business until his death in 1894, at the age of sixty-eight years. He married Margaret Petcher, who was born at Emmitsburg, Maryland, and came with her parents to Stark county, Ohio, about 1832. She is now a venerable and highly respected woman of eighty nine years, living at her home in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Three children were born to her and her husband, as follows: John H., the special subject of this brief biographical sketch; Manford M., of Fort Wayne, Indiana; and William P., of the same city.

Receiving his early education in the union schools of Canton, John H. Smick when a boy of sixteen years enlisted, in 1864, in the Second Ohio Cavalry, which was assigned to Custer's Division of Sheridan's Army, and served until the close of the war. In 1867 he located in Ada,

Hardin county, becoming the manager of his father's saw mill. Taking up the study of law he acquired a good knowledge of legal matters, and in 1875 was admitted to the Ohio bar. Opening a law office in Ada, he met with well merited success, and in 1879 was elected prosecuting attorney for Hardin county, and served with such ability that in 1881 he was reelected to the same position, and filled the office a second term of three years, during the entire time residing in Kenton, where he removed on his election as prosecuting attorney in 1879. Continuing his residence in this city, Mr. Smick has since continued in his professional labors, and, by means of his acknowledged skill, close attention to the interests of his clients, and his unblemished character, has built up a large and remunerative practice. On January 1, 1895, Mr. Smick formed a partnerhip with Mr. Hamilton E. Hoge in the practice of law, which partnership still continues. The office of this firm is and has been for many years located over the First National Bank of Kenton.

Mr. Smick married, January 8, 1869, Hannah Eckenrode, and they are the parents of four children, namely: Stanton, of Chicago, Illinois; Mary E., living at home; Anna Lawrence, of Fitchburg, Massachusetts; and Bessie, living with her sister Anna in Fitchburg. Fraternally Mr. Smick is a member of Latham Lodge No. 154, F. & A. M., of Kenton and of Cantwell Post, No. 97, G. A. R. Politically he is a valued member of the Republican party, and while in Ada served as mayor of the city. As a member of the Ada school board he was prominent in the erection of the second school building for the college at that place.

John B. Seymour.—A man of pronounced financial and executive ability and tact, John B. Seymour has long been an important factor in advancing the mercantile interests of Hardin county, being the leading grain buyer and shipper of both Foraker and Kenton, his residence being in Kenton. A son of the late William Henry Seymour, he was born, January 2, 1849, in Huron county, Ohio, where his paternal grandparents were pioneer settlers.

A native of Pennsylvania, William Henry Seymour was a child when his parents settled in Huron county, Ohio, where he was bred and educated. Coming from there to Hardin county in 1850, he was here employed in mercantile pursuits until 1876, when, in partnership with his son, John B., he embarked in the grain business in Kenton. He built up a substantial trade as a buyer and seller, continuing it until his retirement from active business affairs in 1893. He still resides in Kenton, a venerable man of eighty-eight years, enjoying a well deserved leisure. Fraternally he belongs to the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and religiously he is a prominent and valued member of the Presbyterian church, in which he has for many years been an elder. For upwards of forty years he was in active business in Hardin county, throughout which he had an extensive acquaintance. He married Eliza Bemis, who was born in Ohio, in Erie county, where her father Elijah Bemis, settled on coming to this state from New York state. She died in 1891, at the age of sixty-six years, leaving four children, namely: Eliza M., widow of the late O. E. Lewis, of Boston, Massachusetts; John

RACHEL S. DEMPSTER ALEXANDER DEMPSTER

B., the special subject of this sketch; Hattie, wife of Joseph Timmons, of Kenton; and William G., a resident of Boston.

But a year old when his parents settled in Hardin county, John B. Seymour was educated in the public schools of Patterson, living there until eighteen years of age. Going then to Illinois, he spent seven years in Chicago, employed as a clerk in a hardware establishment, from there going to Arcola, where for two years he was engaged in mercantile pursuits. Returning to Hardin county in 1876, Mr. Seymour, in company with his father, established himself in the grain and produce business at Kenton, and in the time that has since elapsed has built up a substantial trade, which he has managed alone since the retirement of his father from active pursuits. He has two large elevators, one at Kenton having a capacity of forty thousand bushels, and one at Foraker holding about fifteen thousand bushels. He has large warehouses and other necessary equipments, his Foraker plant alone being valued at twenty thousand dollars. He also has a large onion business at Foraker, being among the heaviest buyers and shippers of that crop in the state, handling annually from one hundred and fifty thousand to two hundred thousand bushels.

Mr. Seymour married, August 18, 1872, Pauline Heym, who was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, a daughter of J. Adam Heym, a soldier in the Civil war, and of his wife, Jane Heym, neither of whom are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Seymour have no children of their own, but have an adopted son, Leslie George, with Mr. Seymour. Fraternally Mr. Seymour is very prominent in the Masonic order, which he joined in 1875, belonging to lodge, chapter, council and commandery, and has taken the thirty-second degree in Masonry, the highest excepting the thirty-third degree, which is honorary. Politically he is a stanch supporter of the principles of the Republican party.

Mrs. Rachel S. Dempster.—One of the most highly respected residents of Roundhead township, Hardin county, Ohio, is Mrs. Rachel S. Dempster, widow of Alexander Dempster, who passed away at the home where she now resides, December 27, 1888, in the prime of life. Mrs. Dempster was born in Trumbull county, Ohio, in March, 1844, and is a daughter of John and Susanna (Mulholland) Dunlap. Her parents are given further mention in connection with the sketch of her brother, James R. Dunlap, found elsewhere in this work. Mr. Dunlap and his family came to Hardin county in the fall of 1846, and the daughter was reared on a farm, attending the public school and learning to assist in household duties. She grew to womanhood in the county, and was married, September 8, 1868, to Alexander Dempster, a son of John W. and a brother of Robert A. and W. P. Dempster. Mr. Dempster and his wife moved on a farm after their marriage, and there the family have lived since. He became a successful farmer and gained an influential place in the neighborhood, being a man of high character and good business principles, but was cut off in the flower of his manhood, leaving a widow and several children. Mr. Dempster was a prominent member of the Pleasant Hill Methodist Episcopal church, where his widow is now a member. He was born in 1841.

After the death of her husband Mrs. Dempster took the management of the farm into her hands and reared her children, keeping up the home and giving her little ones the best education within her power. She owns eighty acres of land in Roundhead township. She is an energetic, intelligent, able business woman, and has done her duty in all things.

Mr. Dempster and his wife became the parents of children as follows: John, who lives in Lima; Joe, who is with his mother on the home place; and Thorne, who also lives in Lima, Ohio.

Dr. Irvin A. Wynn.—Among the prominent professional men of Hardin county, Ohio, is Irvin A. Wynn, D. V. S., living in Kenton. Dr. Wynn was born in Campbelford, Northumberland county, Canada, December 30, 1863, and is a son of George S. and Matilda (Cryderman) Wynn, both natives of Canada, who were pioneers of Northumberland county. Mr. Wynn was a blacksmith by trade and an enterprising, ambitious business man. In 1863 he moved to Union county, Ohio, where he filled a contract for getting out ties for a broad gauge railroad then being constructed, which later became a part of the Baltimore & Ohio system. A few years later he removed with his family to Logan county, where he now resides, at the age of seventy-three years. His wife died in 1890, aged fifty-two. Dr. Wynn has one sister living, Rosa, wife of Clarence Crucher, of Logan county. Dr. Wynn is the only one of the family now residing in Hardin county.

The boyhood days of Dr. Wynn were spent in Logan county, Ohio, and there he received his early education. He learned the blacksmith trade with his father and followed the same thirteen years, during which time he spent one year in the grocery business. In 1890 he began the study of veterinary surgery at Toronto, Canada, graduated from the course, and also graduated from the Ohio Veterinary College at Cincinnati, and located in Kenton in 1895. In 1897 Dr. Wynn established a veterinary hospital, and for five years he conducted a livery business. Dr. Wynn's is the leading institution of the kind in the county, and he has many calls for his skill. He is a thorough master of his profession, and is one of the enterprising citizens of Kenton. Dr. Wynn is establishing the Win-ner Chemical Company at Kenton, its object being to manufacture a number of different preparations for the use of veterinary surgeons, which he confidently believes will meet with success. He is one of the most progressive men among his profession and keeps thoroughly abreast of the times. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. the K. of P. and Lodge No. 157, B. P. O. E.

In 1886 Dr. Wynn married Jennie L. McCurdy, daughter of James and Sarah McCurdy, of Huntsville, Logan county. This union has been blessed by one son, Homer C.

John A. Baird.—Among the prominent business men of Kenton, Ohio, is John A. Baird, president and general manager of the Kenton Creamery. Mr. Baird was born in Kane county, Illinois, August 23, 1861, a son of Hugh and Mary (Petes) Baird, both natives of Ireland.

The father came to America when a young man, and by occupation was a farmer. He carried on farming first in Kane county, Illinois, and later in Ionia county, Michigan, where he cleared a farm, and died there when about seventy-five years of age. Mrs. Baird came to the United States as a young girl; she is still living in Michigan. They were the parents of three sons and one daughter, of whom John A. is the oldest.

John A. Baird was a baby when his parents took him to Michigan, where he spent his boyhood. He received his education in the public schools and remained at home until he reached his majority. He then removed to Kane county, Illinois, where he learned the buttermaking industry, working near Elgin for a time; later he became manager of a creamery at Kokomo, Indiana, where he remained some time, proceeding from there to Ovid, Michigan. He located in Kenton, Ohio, in 1886, working two months, and then purchasing a half interest in the business. In the spring of 1888 he purchased the entire business, and when the concern became incorporated, in 1903 Mr. Baird assumed his present position at the head of the business. B. F. Deneston is secretary and William Lawrence, vice president, and the firm is established on a good foundation and doing a splendid business. They manufacture butter of a superior quality, which is disposed of in wholesale lots. Their output is some five hundred thousand pounds a year; they have a fine cold storage plant, and their machinery is the most modern and complete, the factory being one of the best in the state of Ohio. Mr. Baird is thoroughly acquainted with every detail of the business, and besides being an efficient buttermaker, has great executive ability and business acumen being able to carry on the affairs of the concern with a degree of success that is very gratifying to himself and the other stockholders.

In 1885 Mr. Baird married Mary E. Holdridge of Ovid, Michigan. Mr. Baird is a member of the Masonic order, being affiliated with the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council, Commandery and Aladdin Temple, of Columbus, and the U. C. T., also Lodge No. 157, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is a public-spirited, useful citizen, and has been for about fifteen years a member of the county election board. Politically he is a supporter of the Democratic party. He is well known in the vicinity of Kenton, and universally esteemed.

Colonel Luther Furney.—With a life prolonged to the patriarchal age of nearly ninety years, Colonel Luther Furney, one of the most honored pioneers and revered citizens of Hardin county, could peer down the dim vista of years and find his memory an indissoluble line in the chain that links the remote pioneer past with the twentieth century of opulent prosperity and progress. At the time of his death, which occurred in the city of Kenton on the 17th of February, 1910, he was the most venerable citizen of Hardin county, and the family name has been identified with the annals of the state of Ohio for fully a century. Colonel Furney was a man of broad mental ken, of exalted integrity of character and of distinctive business ability. He long played an important part in connection with the civic and business affairs of Hardin county and especially of his home city of Kenton; he served with dis-

tinction as one of the gallant defenders of our national integrity in the Civil war; and when, in the fulness of years and well earned honors, he was summoned to the life eternal, he left the heritage of worthy thoughts and worthy deeds. His memory will long remain in reverent esteem on the part of those who knew him within any period of his prolonged and useful life, and in this history of Hardin county it is most fitting that there be incorporated a tribute to one whose life counted for good in all its relations.

Colonel Luther Furney was born at Petersburg, Mahoning county, Ohio, on the 6th of October, 1822, at which time Mahoning county was still an integral part of Columbiana county. He was a son of William and Christina (Lepley) Furney, the former of whom was a native of Winchester, Virginia, and the latter of the state of Pennsylvania. William Furney came to Ohio soon after the admission of the state to the federal Union, having taken up his residence in Columbiana county about the year 1810, in the locality now known as Mahoning county, and there he remained until 1833, when he removed with his family to Hardin county, arriving at his destination on the 20th of June, at which time the subject of this memoir was a lad of about ten years. At that early date there were only three families permanently settled in this entire vicinity, and William Furney erected the very first house on the site of the present thriving little city of Kenton. A gunsmith by trade, the father established a little shop, and he merits recognition as having been the first business man of Kenton, even as was he one of its most honored and influential citizens until the time of his death. He was one of the first hotel men of Hardin county, having erected the Mansion House, for many years one of the landmarks of the county, and having conducted the same for a number of years. This was the first hotel building in Kenton. William Furney was sixty years of age at the time of his death. The original orthography of the name was Forney, and he changed the same to the present form after taking up his residence in Hardin county. His father, Lewis Forney, was a native of Virginia, where the family was founded in the colonial days, and became one of the sterling pioneers of Ohio. The wife of William Furney was eighty-four years of age when she was summoned to the life eternal, and of their five children only two attained to years of maturity. Colonel Furney having been the youngest of the number and having long survived all other members of the immediate family.

Colonel Furney was reared under the conditions and influences of the pioneer era, and lived up to the full tension of its strenuous labors and its vicissitudes. His early educational training was limited, owing to the exigencies of time and place, and the major part of his scholastic training was secured in the primitive schools of the little hamlet of Kenton. Concerning his early experiences the following pertinent statements have been made. He chopped trees and cleared a considerable portion of the land on which the city of Kenton now stands, including the site of the present postoffice, as well as those of the Weaver House and several other of the principal buildings in the business center. He finally returned to Mahoning county, where he attended school for an

interval, and later he made his way down the Mississippi river to Island No. Forty, where he chopped cordwood for steamboats, receiving as his compensation thirty-seven cents a cord. From that place he went further down the river and purchased a fishing outfit, paying for the same with the fish he secured. In later years he reverted with much satisfaction to his experience in this connection and recalled to his listeners that he incidentally captured one catfish that weighed one hundred and sixty-five pounds.

In April 1844, Colonel Furney proceeded to New Orleans, where he invested a considerable portion of his earnings in a finer suit of clothes than he had ever before been able to indulge. With his treasured habiliments he then set forth for his home in Ohio. After arriving in Columbiana county he was detained four weeks by illness, and he later passed one week in Trumbull county, whence he proceeded by canal to Cleveland and on to Sandusky. The Mad River & Erie Railroad had been completed to Tiffin and by means of this line he was transported to the latter point, from which he made his way to Kenton, walking a considerable portion of the distance. Upon his return to his home town he became associated with his father in the hotel business, and he also conducted a general store in one of the rooms of the hotel building. After the retirement of his father Colonel Furney individually continued the hotel business for a number of years.

At the inception of the Civil war Colonel Furney was one of the first to respond to President Lincoln's first call for volunteers, and he was the first to write his name on the volunteer list of the first company organized in Kenton. He was virtually the organizer of this company, with which he proceeded to Columbus, and after drilling one week at Camp Denison the company proceeded to the front. Colonel Furney returned to Kenton and here succeeded in raising another company, which was mustered in as Company D, Thirty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and of which he was chosen captain. Colonel Sanders Piatt had command of this regiment. The regiment went into service in West Virginia, being stationed the major part of the time at Charleston. In 1863 Captain Furney received commission as major of his regiment, and one year later he was raised to the rank of lieutenant colonel, in which office he continued his gallant service until the close of the war. He participated in many of the most important battles marking the progress of the great internecine conflict, and was in the thick of the fight, especially in the famous battles of Winchester, Cedar Creek, Fisher Hill and Cloud Mountain. From an appreciative article published in a Kenton paper at the time of the death of Colonel Furney are taken the following statements relevant to his military career: "An interesting account is given relative to the day preceding the battle of Cedar Creek. Colonel Furney was officer of the day and late in the afternoon preceding the battle he was covering the camp in his inspection of the various posts. He rode out beyond the line and came upon a Confederate soldier boy. As he talked with the boy he looked in the direction of a distant mountain, and across a path he saw a file of rebel soldiers passing. He realized in an instant what it meant. He hastened to the tent of General

Wright and found him in a slumbrous condition in his bunk. He told him of the approach; the general muttered that he would look after it, but he neglected to send a scouting party of cavalry, as Colonel Furney had suggested. As a result of this failure the Union men were surprised next morning by the Confederate forces. The battle of Cedar Creek followed, and fifteen hundred Union men were taken prisoner, among them Colonel Furney." It may further be stated that the Colonel ever maintained a lively interest in his old comrades in arms, signifying the same by his membership in the U. V. U. S.

After the close of his long and valiant service as a soldier of the Union, Colonel Furney returned to Kenton, where he purchased a planing mill, which he therafter operated in connection with a general lumber business, in company with Bogardis Brothers, until about 1870, when he sold. Later he erected another planing mill, on the site of the present Callam mill, and after operating the same for seven years he sold it to John Callam in 1875. Colonel Furney engaged in the retail grocery business, with which he continued to be identified until 1895, when he retired from all active business pursuits. The Furney grocery was located on the present site of the handsome brick Furney block. In a reminiscent way it may be stated that Colonel Furney was in the early days a carrier on the star mail route from Upper Sandusky to St. Mary's via Kenton, long before the Lewistown reservoir was built, and was a chain boy of the surveying corps when the Lima pike was constructed.

Colonel Furney passed the closing years of his long and beneficent life in the beautiful home he had erected on west Franklin street, the house having been planned by himself and his devoted wife and afforded to him a place of comfort and gracious surroundings during the grateful evening of his life. At the time of his death he was the most venerable citizen in Hardin county and had lived in Kenton for a longer period than any other citizen. He was one of the oldest members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in this section of Ohio, having joined the Kenton lodge on the 12th of April, 1847, and having continued his affiliation until his death. He became past grand of his lodge on the 6th of January, 1850, and for four years he represented his district in the grand lodge of the state. He was a charter member of Scioto Encampment No. 179, and also of Canton Kenton, No. 83, Patriarchs Militant. In point of continuous membership in one lodge he was the oldest Odd Fellow in Ohio, having been a member of the local organization in Kenton for sixty-three years. He was also identified with the Masonic fraternity, of which he was a member for thirty-six years prior to his demise.

In politics Colonel Furney was originally a Whig, and he identified himself with the Republican party at the time of its inception, having been one of its organizers in Hardin county and having ever thereafter continued a stalwart and intelligent advocate of its principles and policies. He voted for every Republican presidential candidate, including President Taft. He was a zealous and consistent member of the First Presbyterian church of Kenton, as is also his venerable widow, and

his entire life was filled with deep human sympathy and tolerance, was marked by kindly thoughts and kindly deeds, and was guided and governed by the highest principles of integrity and honor.

In October, 1848, was solemnized the marriage of Colonel Furney to Miss Louisa B. Soule, who was born at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, whence she came with her parents to Ohio when a child. Of the three children of this union one son and one daughter died on the same day, of scarlet fever, the son having been four and the daughter two years of age. The only surviving child, Melvus G., is one of the representative business men and honored and influential citizens of Kenton, which city has ever been his home and in which he is now successfully engaged in the drug business. Colonel and Mrs. Furney walked side by side down the pathway of life for a period of more than sixty-one years, and celebrated their sixty-first marriage anniversary, October 15, 1909. They were sustained and comforted by mutual love and sympathy, and their married life was of idyllic order. In her bereavement the loved and venerable widow finds her chief solace and compensation in the gracious and hallowed memories and associations of the past, and to her is accorded the affectionate regard of the entire community. She was born on the 11th of June, 1823, and is a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Porter) Soule, who passed the closing years of their lives in Kenton, Ohio.

Melvus G. Furney, the only surviving child of the honored subject of this memoir, was born in Kenton, on the 27 of June, 1853, and was here reared to manhood. He is a loyal and progressive citizen and is well upholding the prestige of the honored name which he bears. He married Miss Mina DeVoe, and they have seven children.

In conclusion is entered the following brief tribute, which appeared in a Kenton paper at the time of the death of Colonel Furney: "Colonel Furney was one of the oldest business men of Kenton. While he lived he was the pioneer business man of the city. All of the people who were of Kenton when he first resided here are now gone from among the living. He was the lone survivor and he, the last link between the remote past and the present, has now also joined the fathers. Colonel Furney was a man of more than ordinary worth to his community. He was a citizen of thrift, economy, straight living and honorable purpose. His life was honest, his example worthy of emulation. His long years of industry and Christian service won for him late years of peace and happiness."

James B. Wickwire.—Now in his seventy-eighth year, James B. Wickwire, the substantial farmer who is the proprietor of a fine country place of one hundred and sixty acres in Blanchard township, is still active in mind and body, and an honor to his well-ordered life and his sturdy ancestry. His farm is not only valuable because of the improvements which he has been adding to it for years, but because of the recent tapping of a large deposit of natural gas upon his land. Mr. Wickwire sunk the well in November, 1909, to a depth of 1,443 feet, and struck gas in sufficient quantities to fully supply his place with heat and light, with a surplus to meet outside demands from his neighbors. As several

adjacent estates have found oil, the company is still drilling and has every reason to believe that they will strike the more solid deposit.

Mr. Wickwire has resided on his present homestead since the destruction of his tannery by fire in 1872; but many years of his earlier life were passed in a pretty constant change of occupations and localities. He is therefore a man of wide practical information and an interesting, as well as an instructive talker. Since settling in Hardin county he has made a few trips south, east and west, including visits to Washington, D. C., to the World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago, and the World's Fair, Buffalo, and also to Atlanta, Georgia.

James B. Wickwire is a native of Ontario county, New York, where he was born May 22, 1833, a son of Seba and Nancy (Duesler) Wickwire. The family had its origin in Connecticut, whither it moved to Ontario county in the early part of the nineteenth century and, in 1835, to York township, Sandusky county, Ohio. Seba Wickwire, who thus transferred the fortunes of the family to the Buckeye state, also entered a half section of land in Delaware township, Hancock county, for himself, and a like amount for his brother-in-law. His first purchase in Sandusky county consisted of a "forty," with a log cabin upon it, and to this he added, as the years passed, until he was the owner of seven "forties" lying around the original tract. Mr. and Mrs. Seba Wickwire became the parents of five children, besides James B., namely: George and William (both deceased); Seba, Lydia (deceased) and Alfred.

The subject of this sketch, the last-born of the family, lost his mother when he was a young boy, and he also had the misfortune to have his sister taken from him soon after his mother passed away. His brothers were all school teachers in their early manhood and as they married, and established homes of their own, the "baby of the family" was cared for with true fraternal solicitude. About 1849, when he was sixteen years of age, he first attended school away from home, at Scipio (now Republic), Seneca county, Ohio. He then enjoyed a short schooling at Oberlin, but abandoned his studies to start a general store at Green Spring, where his brother William had established himself in business. Prior to that time James B. had served as a driver on the old Miami & Wabash canal. At Green Spring he tired of "steady business" and fitted up a Yankee notion rig, with which he started west, selling his goods on the way. There his brothers George and William located and organized the Angola Bank, operating the institution until their death and passing the management over to their heirs. Mr. Wickwire, of this sketch, taught school and studied medicine for a time, after selling his peddler's outfit, and then commenced his rovings through Iowa to St. Louis, Kansas City, Fort Leavenworth, St. Joe and Omaha. The city last named was then but a rough lumber camp, surrounded by Indian settlements. The young man staked out a claim of one hundred and sixty acres in this wild western country, assisted in laying out into sections what are now twelve Nebraska counties (then Washington and Burt), and helped plat Cuming City in which he invested to the extent of a few lots. Until the fall of 1859 he drifted back and forth between Omaha and St. Joe, teaching school and engaged

in various lines of business, when he returned to the middle west, married and went into partnership with his brother George in the operation of a meat market at Angola, Indiana.

The latter venture was continued until April, 1864, when Mr. Wickwire, with three friends, started for Virginia City, Montana, making the trip afoot to Waterloo. The party took train to Chicago, where they purchased their provisions, and then started for Grinnell, Iowa (whither they had shipped their wagon), which at that time was the end of the Union Pacific Railroad. At Davenport, Mr. Wickwire and another member of the party bought the oxen for the trip, and drove them to Grinnell. There they found their wagon; but their provisions and other goods never arrived. The route from that point was up the Missouri valley to Omaha, where a stop of two weeks was made, the outfit of the party being completed by the addition of two cows to the livestock, the animals being purchased from the proceeds of Mr. Wickwire's house at Cuming City. Buying another stock of provisions at Omaha, they finally started for Virginia City. Their destination was not reached without a fatal encounter with the Indians, which occurred July 3, 1864, near the scene of the Custer massacre. They had joined other emigrants bound for Virginia City, and in the two hours' battle with the fierce Sioux seven were killed and four wounded. The bustling Montana mining camp was reached August 23, 1864, but Mr. Wickwire engaged in the pack-train business for about two months. Then, after a severe spell of sickness he crossed the Rockies into Idaho, and worked in the gold diggings at Idaho City and other points until the summer of 1865. In the fall he went to Oregon City, and thence took passage on a sailing vessel for San Francisco, the weather being such that this trip which usually consumed about nine days occupied twenty-four. A month or so was passed in California, when Mr. Wickwire started for New York City, via Nicaragua. The trip through the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Ocean was commenced at Greytown, and the only really rough weather was experienced off Cape Hatteras. New York harbor was sighted March 4, 1866, and the long voyage was at an end.

Upon reaching Angola, Mr. Wickwire found that his wife and their son, Jay, were at Wauseon, Ohio. With his family he was soon located at Dunkirk, that state, where he had purchased a tannery. His plant was burned in 1872, and as it was uninsured the financial blow was a hard one; but, instead of repining, he at once built a log cabin on his tract of land in Blanchard township, this county, and commenced to establish the homestead which became the abiding place of his increasing family and which he has developed into an attractive and valuable country place.

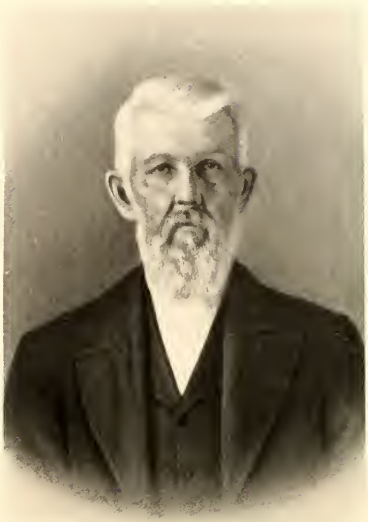
On February 1, 1860, Mr. Wickwire was united in marriage with Miss M. Kezia Williams of York township, Sandusky county, and to them have been born the following: Jay W., Lillian (deceased), Clara, Roy (deceased), Edith, Cora and Maude. Jay W. Wickwire married Miss Fannie Miller, December 14, 1907. He owns eighty acres of land near his father's farm. The daughter Clara first married J. J. Orth, who died in 1892 and by whom she had a son, H. Clay Orth. She is

now the wife of A. L. Braden, of Upper Sandusky, Ohio. Cora, the sixth child of Mr. and Mrs. James B. Wickwire, married Howard Cotner, December 12, 1907, and their son, Bradford was born July 14, 1909. Maude, the youngest of the family is now Mrs. John Baersche, of Dunkirk, her marriage occurring in March, 1908. It may be added that all the members of the family are more or less prominent in the fraternities. The father, James B., joined the Masonic order in 1855, and his son, Jay W., is a Mason of high rank. The mother and daughters are all identified with the Eastern Star, Cora and Maude being officers in the order.

To complete the genealogy of the Wickwire family the main facts should be added regarding the brothers of James B. George married (first) Loretta Lemon, by whom he had three children, and (second) Rebecca Hanna, who bore him seven—all but one of whom are living. William married Olivia Crockett, and his childless widow is living at Angola, Indiana, eighty-seven years of age. Seba, who is a resident of Clyde, Sandusky county, and eighty-five years of age, has been married four times—first, to Sophia Crockett; secondly, to Hannah Crockett, a sister; thirdly, to Mary Gale, by whom he had six children, all but one alive; and fourthly, to Vina Blanchard. Alfred S. was twice married. By his first wife, Kate Ann Huffman, he became the father of one son Fremont ad by his second wife, Elisa Gray, father of seven, all of whom survive. James B. Wickwire has been twice married, his first wife being formerly a Miss Julia Merriman. There were no children by this union.

Alfred S. Wickwire, a brother of James B. Wickwire, had the following children: Fremont, born May 18, 1866; Myrtilla, June 18, 1870; Carrie, March 21, 1872; William, June 16, 1874; Ora, December 1, 1877; Roscoe, September 20, 1880; Olivia, January 8, 1883; and Alfred Glen, December 20, 1886. Myrtilla married a Mr. Shade and has the following children: Anna May, born August 5, 1903, and William Roy born September 17, 1904. Carrie is the wife of Mr. Davis and her children are: Gertrnde M. born November 21, 1899, Ruth born October 8, 1903, and Russel, born May 20, 1907. Ora Wickwire has the following children: Clara born December 13, 1899, Florence, October 4, 1901, and Opal, April 26, 1909. The children of Roscoe Wickwire are: Bonetta, born December 30, 1906, and Undine, December 2, 1908.

The grand and great-grandchildren of George Wickwire are as follows: Children of Charles and Catharine Wickwire are, Ethel W., born November 1, 1883, Esther I., March 18, 1885, Ruth R., June 20, 1893, died February 12, 1894, and George C. Wickwire, born February 7, 1895; children of Wilma Wickwire Elston are: Lynn, born April 9, 1893, and Ralph, August 5, 1898; child of Nellie Wickwire Lease is Nellie Fern Lease, born January 25, 1890; children of Loretta A. C. Wickwire Sanders are Guy W., born in 1874 and Paul W., born in 1887; children of Guy W. Sanders and great-grandchildren of George W. Wickwire are: Mark C. Sanders, born in 1904, and Hugh G. Sanders, born in 1909; children of Catharine Wickwire Miller are: Clyde W., born September 21, 1877, Waldo W., October 19, 1884, and Wayne T., March 30, 1888.



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM BREECE

The great-grandchildren of Laura Wickwire Merriman are: Franklin J. Merriman, born October 8, 1859; Ella Rowley, born September 20, 1866, married July 3, 1895, and has J. Rowley Merriman, born May 14, 1896, G. Clem Merriman, born April 8, 1899, and June Lois Merriman, born June 11, 1906.

William Breece.—One of the largest land-owners and most extensive dealers in stock in Hardin county is William Breece, of Roundhead township. Mr. Breece was born May 12, 1834, in Logan county, Ohio, and is a son of Robert and Lydia (Henry) Breece. Robert Breece spelled his name "Brees," and was a native of Wales. He came to the United States with his parents when a child, and was one of the pioneers of Ohio, living in several different parts of the state at different times. He married Lydia Henry in Logan county, Ohio; her parents were natives of Virginia and settled in Logan county, where the daughter was born. They spent the remainder of their lives in Logan county, but Robert Breece and his wife located in Allen county and later removed to Hardin county among the early settlers. Mr. Breece died in Hardin county at the age of fifty-five years.

Robert Breece walked from Roundhead May 28, 1835, to Bucyrus, and entered eighty acres of land in the woods in Roundhead township, and which is now owned by his son William and held as the old homestead. But little of the land in Hardin county was cleared at that time, and he set out to improve his farm and erect a house, and here he spent the remainder of his life. Of his nine children but two now survive (1910), William and Amanda, Mrs. Gillman, also of Roundhead township.

William Breece was a small boy when the family settled premanently in Hardin county, and as he grew up he helped to improve the farm, attending school winters. He became an expert farmer, and was a good judge of land values; for the past twenty years he has often acted as a land appraiser, and at one time owned about six hundred acres of land himself, all of which he acquired through his own efforts. He has always been very successful as a farmer and is a self-made man. For many years he has been very active in buying and selling cattle and other stock, and is a business man of sound judgment and intelligence. He now owns his father's old homestead, and his possessions of land altogether aggregates about five hundred and fifty acres.

Mr. Breece married Sarah Axtel, and she became the mother of four children, only one of whom survives, Lydia, wife of M. L. Baughman, who lives in Kenton. Mr. Baughman and his wife have four sons and one daughter. Mr. Breece is a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Roundhead. Politically he has always supported the principles of the Democratic party, although he has taken no very active part in public affairs. He was elected land appraiser in 1909. He is well known throughout the county, where he is highly respected. His wife died in November, 1909, after a married life of fifty-one years. She was a woman of high character, universally esteemed, and her death was widely mourned.

E. M. Turner is one of the land owners and representative farmers of Liberty township, the place of his birth, January 8, 1854. He is a son of Isaac B. and Elizabeth (Wood) Turner, the father born in Muskingum county, Ohio, June 17, 1817, and the mother was born near Zanesville of this state in 1828. She was a daughter of Samuel Wood and a sister of the Hon. James J. Wood, probate judge of Hardin county for some years, and of David Wood of Ada. Isaac B. Turner and Elizabeth Wood were married in Muskingum county, Ohio, and their seven children were tenderly reared and well educated, all of them receiving the advantages of the University at Ada and with the exception of Howard all taught school. In order of birth they are Jane (deceased), John W., Franklin, E. M., S. W., S. H. and Howard. Franklin Turner married Miss Catherine Reed, and they have children, Clara, Otis, Harry and Cora. S. W. Turner married first Miss H. O. Kridler, by whom he had two sons, Lloyd and Walter, and he married for his second wife Olive Meyers, and they also had two children, Paul and Helen. Howard married Dora Tressel, and their five children are Donna, Alva, Paul, Emmit and Gladys. Jane became the wife of S. Turner, and had a son, Roy.

Early in the '50s Isaac B. Turner came to Hardin county and bought eigthy acres of land in Liberty township, but in 1866 he sold that property and bought a one hundred and thirty acre tract in the same township, now the property of his son. He built a log house there and partly cleared the land, but seeing the necessity of buying more land and taking advantage of a good market he disposed of that property and purchased the present homestead of E. M. Turner. He was a charter member of the Methodist Episcopal church, Ames chapel, and he served that society for many years as a trustee. His influence and advice were often sought and freely given, and he was active in every worthy enterprise for the benefit of his community. He died on the 14th of December, 1902, mourned by a host of friends. He survived his wife a number of years, she having died in 1880.

E. M. Turner, a son of Isaac B. and Elizabeth, is now one of the representative farmers of Liberty township, owning and occupying the old Turner homestead there, a valuable and productive farm of one hundred and thirty acres. He was educated in the public schools of Liberty township, and completed his studies at the Northern Ohio University at Ada, afterward teaching school for seven terms. He then turned his attention exclusively to farming. In 1876 he was married to Miss Alice, a daughter of John Tressel, and of the seven children which blessed their union six grew to mature years, namely: Nora, the wife of J. P. Motter; Ward E., who married Miss Ivan Hawk, and their two children are Ray and Alice; Charles C., who married Miss Bertha Rothrock; Roy, deceased; Floyd; Earl and Ruth. Both Charles C. and Floyd are graduates of the Ohio Northern University at Ada. Mrs. Turner, the mother of these children died on the 19th of August, 1904, and for his second wife Mr. Turner married Mrs. Hattie Henry September 3, 1906. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he has served his church as a trustee and as a Sunday school superintendent.

THOMAS LINCOLN BREEDLOVE.—Among the industrious, successful men of Hardin county is T. L. Breedlove, who has been a resident of of the locality since 1893. Mr. Breedlove was born in Washington county, Illinois, November 17, 1860, and is a son of William and Charlotte (Stroble) Breedlove, natives of Champaign county Ohio. When he was ten years of age he came with his parents to Ohio, where they located on a farm. He spent his boyhood days working on his father's farm through the summers and attending the public school winters, receiving a fair education. He remained at home until he reached his maturity, and learned the details of farming.

In 1879 Mr. Breedlove married Emma Arnold, of Champaign county, Ohio, and to this union seven children have been born, as follows: Clara, Valire, Lillie, Valore, James, John and Oscar. Shortly after his marriage Mr. Breedlove moved to Auglaise county, Ohio, where he lived on a farm until 1893, when he located in Hardin county, which has been his home since. He settled in Alger, and is now foreman in the onion fields about two and a half miles southeast of Alger, for George F. Stambaugh.

Mr. Breedlove is a man of good principles and high character, and is respected wherever he is known. He is honest and upright in his dealings and has many friends. Politically he upholds the principles of the Republican party, and he takes a commendable interest in local affairs.

JOHN C. SHELLER, a prosperous farmer of Marion township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born in Seneca county, Ohio, August 14, 1857, son of John and Catharine (Kemmerly) Sheller, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Fairfield, Ohio. When he was a small boy both his parents died, and he was early thrown upon his own resources. He was reared on a farm, and up to the time he was fifteen years of age he attended district school during the winter terms. From the time he was fifteen until he was twenty-three he was a wage worker on farms and began early to buy out the heirs of his father's farm. Then he married and settled down to farming on his own responsibility. Today he is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and fifty-four acres in section 14, Marion township and is engaged in general farming and stock raising.

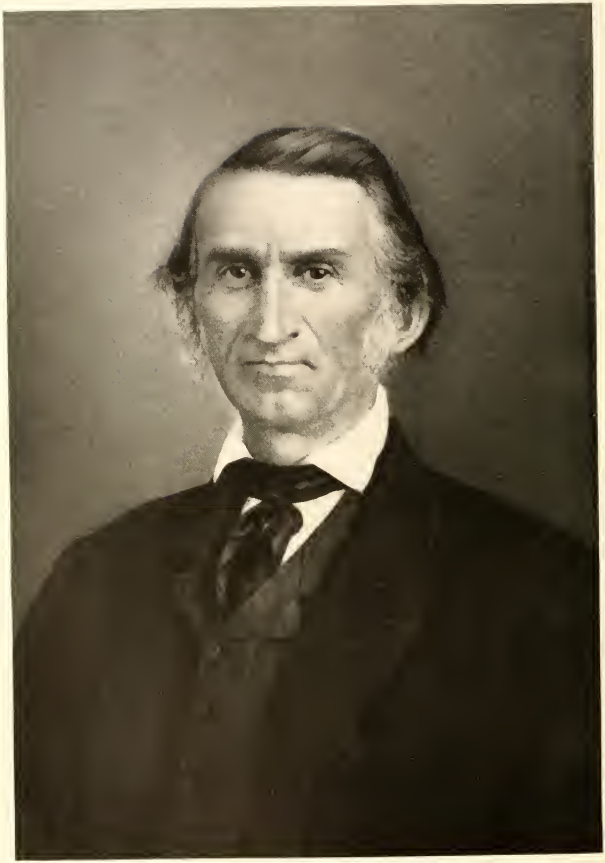
Mr. Sheller first married Miss Mary James, who bore him one child that died in infancy, her death following soon afterward. For his second wife he married Miss Maggie Sorg, who was born in Seneca county, Ohio, November 19, 1864, daughter of Peter and Mary (Kuhn) Sorg. Her parents were born and married in Germany and had two children when they came to this country and settled in Ohio. During the Civil war Peter Sorg enlisted in the Union army, and was killed in battle at Stone river. His widow subsquently moved to Fostoria, Ohio, where she died October, 1905. The children by this second marriage are as follows: Nora, born January 15, 1887, wife of Earl Scott; John Alvin, October 9, 1888; Mary, September 14, 1890; Elsie, May 12, 1895, and Fannie, September 23, 1897. Miss Mary is a teacher of piano music, and has a large class.

Mr. Sheller and his family are members of Pleasant Valley United Brethren church, and, politically, his support has always been given to the Republican party, though he has never been active in politics.

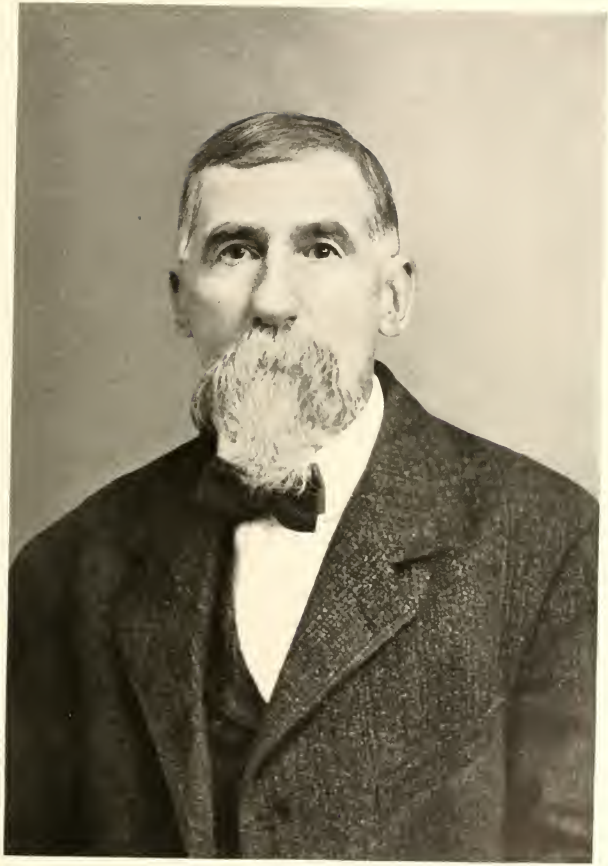
CHARLES SHUSTER is a prominent and worthy farmer in Liberty township and he descends from one of the early pioneer families of Hardin county. John Shuster, his paternal grandfather, born in Pennsylvania and subsequently moving to Tuscarawas county, Ohio, married Elizabeth Wingate, and in 1835 entered one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 8, Liberty township, Hardin county. And in 1839, with his wife and nine children, he drove here to occupy his land, all his affects with the exception of some stock which they drove being packed in one wagon in which they rode. Arriving here they were housed by some of their distant neighbors until a log cabin could be erected, which was soon accomplished, and then began life in true pioneer style. As this move was made in November there was no chance of putting in a crop for some time, but wild game was abundant and provided them with their principal means of sustenance until a crop could be put in and harvested. The virgin soil soon gave way to the axe and the plow, and in a few years John Shuster had evolved a rich and productive farm. Twelve children were born to John and Elizabeth Shuster, namely: Samuel, Sara, Mary, Daniel, Martha, John, Henry, Elizabeth, Joshua, George, Wesley and Elihu. The three last named were born in Hardin county, and four of this family are now living,—Martha, John, Henry and Elihu. John Shuster, the father, died in Hardin county on the 22d of October, 1881, at the age of eighty-three years.

Daniel Shuster, the fourth born child in the above family, was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, February 22, 1827, and he was twelve years of age when the family came to Hardin county. His early life until young manhood was spent with his father clearing their new farm, and later he worked out by the month. In addition to this work he also learned the carpenter's trade and worked at it for a number of years, being a useful and much sought after man on account of his skill as a mechanic and his willingness to give value received. At his death he owned one hundred acres of valuable farming land, the greater part of which he had cleared. He was a member of the Lutheran church, and he was held in the highest esteem by all who knew him on account of his sterling qualities and upright character. On the 25th of December, 1852, he was happily married to Christine Kuhn, and the following children were born to them: Clara, the wife of G. V. Guyton; Lucy, deceased, was the wife A. Aldering; Angelia married C. E. Overmeyer; Ida is the wife of F. P. Rusher; K. A. married Nora Flynn; and Charles. Daniel Shuster, the father, died on the 14th of October, 1881, and he is still survived by his widow.

Charles Shuster was born on his father's farm, the homestead which he now owns, and he attended the common schools. He has added forty acres to the homestead, making him a farm of one hundred and forty acres. On the 26th of December, 1890, he was married to Miss



James B. Bowlin



Wm T Bowdle

Anna, a daughter of A. C. and Julia Baker, and she was born in Beachton, Union county, Ohio, in 1865. Her parents were from Baden, Germany, the father born in 1821 and the mother in 1837, and the former was a son of Francis Baker, who with his family came to seek a new home in a new country in 1832. In 1837 he entered one hundred and twenty acres of land in Liberty township, but he resided near Columbus, where he owned a seventy-five acre tract, and he died in 1859, and his wife in 1888. A. C. and Julia Baker also came to the United States in 1837, and after the death of his father A. C. Baker purchased the latter's claim in Hardin county of the remaining heirs and moved thereto in 1865. By subsequent purchase he became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres. He married Julia Hammer in 1855, and the following eight children were born to them: Lizzie, Sophia, Kate, Francis, Anna, William, Louis and Mary. The four children, a son and three daughters, born to Mr. and Mrs. Shuster are Donald, Catherine, Julia and Lucile C.

William T. Bowdle.—A native son of Hardin county and a member of one of its well known and highly honored pioneer families, Mr. Bowdle is a citizen of prominence and influence in Roundhead township, where he was reared to manhood and where he has maintained his home from the time of his nativity. He conducts a general store and operates a saw mill at Holden, in this township, and is also the owner of a well improved farm property of two hundred and five acres. He is familiarly known as Esquire Bowdle, from the fact that he has long been the incumbent of the office of justice of the peace, and no citizen of the community is held in higher confidence and esteem.

Mr. Bowdle traces his lineage back to stanch German origin, and the family was founded in America in the colonial epoch of our national history, while the name has been identified with the annals of the state of Ohio since the pioneer days. William T. Bowdle, the immediate subject of this review, was born on the old homestead farm in Roundhead township, Hardin county, on the 11th of December, 1847, and is a son of James B. and Elizabeth (Reed) Bowdle, both likewise natives of Ohio. James B. Bowdle was born and reared in Ross county, and was a son of Joseph and Lucretia (Brown) Bowdle, who continued to reside in that county until their death, though the father had early secured a tract of land in Hardin county. James B. Bowdle was one of a family of eight children, the names of the others being as here noted: Jesse L., Nelson, Thomas, Milton, William B., Rebecca and Anna. Of this family two are still living, William B. and Milton.

James B. Bowdle received very limited educational advantages, owing to the exigencies of time and place, but he attended the primitive pioneer schools as opportunity afforded, and his entire active career was marked by excellent judgment, indefatigable industry and sterling integrity in all the relations of life. In 1831 he moved from Ross county to Hardin county, and in November of that year he settled on the land previously secured by his father in Roundhead township. Upon him devolved the herculean task of reclaiming a farm from the virgin forest, and he put forth his energies so effectively that in due course of

time he reclaimed his land into productivity and made one of the good homes of this section. His original domicile was a log house of the type common to the pioneer days, but with increasing prosperity he was enabled to avail himself of better facilities and to provide a substantial residence for his family. He continued to reside on the old homestead until his death, in 1890, at the age of eighty-two years, secure in the esteem and goodwill of all who knew him. He contributed to the material and civic upbuilding and development of Hardin county, and on the roster of its worthy pioneers his name shall have an enduring place. Both he and his wife, whose death occurred in about 1856, at which time she was fifty years of age, were zealous members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and in politics he was originally a Whig and later a Republican. Of their children two died in infancy, and the names of the others are here entered: Sarah J., Margaret, Mary F., Joseph A., John W., David N., William T., Nancy S. S. and Caroline. The children now living are Joseph A. and William T., the family having numerous representatives in Hardin county at the present time.

William T. Bowdle is one of the sterling citizens of Hardin county whose memory forms an indissoluble link between the primitive pioneer epoch and the latter days of opulent prosperity in this favored section of the state, and his reminiscences of the early days are interesting and graphic. He was reared to maturity on the old home farm, early beginning to assist in the clearing of land and other parts of the farm work, thus learning well the lessons of practical and consecutive industry, the while he availed himself of the advantages offered in the little log school house, with its puncheon floor, wide fireplace and slab desks and benches. In the broader school of experience he has developed his naturally alert and vigorous mentality and is known as a man of wide general information and mature judgment, as well as one endowed with excellent business acumen.

Mr. Bowdle remained at the parental home until his marriage, at the age of twenty-two years, when he initiated his independent career as a farmer. He has never entirely abandoned his association with agricultural pursuits, and is now the owner of a well improved farm of two hundred and five acres, in his native township, where he lives and conducts his general merchandise store. Mr. Bowdle conducts a well equipped general store at Holden, drawing his patronage from the excellent rural section of this vicinity and being known as a straightforward, reliable and upright business man and as a citizen of utmost loyalty and public spirit. In addition to his store he is the owner of a saw mill, which he has successfully operated for a number of years past.

In politics Mr. Bowdle gives an uncompromising allegiance to the Republican party, and he takes a lively and intelligent interest in the vital issues of the day. In a more local way he has ever given his influence and aid in support of those measures and objects which conserve the social, moral, educational and material well being of the community. He served as postmaster at Holden for several years, having been appointed to this office under the administration of President McKinley. He has been justice of the peace in Roundhead township since 1892, and

has so ably administered the affairs of the office as to make it justify its title. He is a member of Wayne Lodge No. 569, Free and Accepted Masons. He is recognized as one of the pillars of the Fletcher Chapel Methodist Episcopal church and has long been one of its most zealous and devoted members, being at the present time assistant superintendent of its Sunday school, as well as a valued member of its board of trustees.

On the 11th of March, 1870, Mr. Bowdle was united in marriage to Miss Laura Rutledge, who was born and reared in Hardin county, this state, and who was a daughter of the late B. W. Rutledge. Of the five children of this union one son died in infancy, and Caroline A., Cora M. and Clara A. also are deceased. The one surviving is Otto E., who is now a resident of Akron, this state. On the 27th of November, 1892, Mr. Bowdle contracted a second marriage, being then united to Miss Amy J. Street, who presides with dignity over their attractive home. She was born on a farm near Ada, Hardin county, Ohio, on the 29th of December, 1862, and is a daughter of Uriah and Lucinda Street, both now deceased. Concerning the five children of the second marriage the following brief record is given in conclusion of this sketch: Emmet C. was born October 21, 1893; James W. died in infancy in 1895; Joseph H. was born May 28, 1897; Charles P. was born July 16, 1899; and Oliver G., who was born September 30, 1901, died in 1902.

James W. Bowen, who has a general store at McGuffey, Ohio, is one of the representative men of his locality. Mr. Bowen was born in Washington county, Ohio, October 23, 1876, son of George and Amanda (Wilson) Bowen, and was educated in the common schools of his native county. His father a farmer, he was reared to farm life in Washington county, Ohio, and in Lincoln county, Kansas. He remained with his father until he was eighteen, after which for several years, he worked out by the month on farms. In November, 1904, he opened up a stock of general merchandise at McGuffey, Hardin county, and devoted his attention to the business. In this he has prospered from the start. He carries a stock of well assorted goods, valued at about two thousand dollars, and occupies his own store, a frame building, thirty by sixty feet in dimensions, which he erected in 1909. Besides his store, he owns his home and other property at McGuffey.

In December, 1897, he married Miss Ella Obenour, a native of Hardin county, Ohio, born in 1878; and they have one daughter, Delorys, born in September, 1898. Politically, Mr. Bowen is a Democrat; fraternally, a Knight of Pythias, having membership in Golden Shield Lodge, No. 724. Also he is a Modern Woodman.

George F. Stambaugh, is one of the able representatives of that class of progressive business men who are giving marked impetus to the industrial and civic advancement of Hardin county, where he is one of the interested principals in the Scioto Land Company, which owns and has under cultivation an extensive tract of land in this section, the same being largely devoted to the propagation of onions, with enormous annual production.

Mr. Stambaugh was born in the city of Youngstown, Mahoning county, Ohio, on the 12th of June, 1870, and is a son of John and Caroline (Hamilton) Stambaugh, who are now both deceased, the father having died in New York City, and the mother in Mississippi. George F. Stambaugh received his early educational discipline in the public schools of his native city, after which he attended the preparatory school at Saratoga Springs, New York, being graduated in this institution in 1888. At the age of eighteen years Mr. Stambaugh became associated with his brothers, Henry and John Stambaugh, in the raising of the best type of standard-bred horses, in Mahoning county, this state, and he continued to be identified with this line of enterprise for five years, within which the three brothers bred and had on the trotting turf many fine horses. The subject of this review has not lost his interest in racing affairs and is still the owner of several valuable and speedy trotters.

In 1893 Mr. Stambaugh came to Hardin county, where he has since maintained his home and where he is one of the principal stockholders in the Scioto Land Company, which owns about four thousand acres of the valuable land in this section, much of the same being the specially fertile marsh land, which has been reclaimed and which is utilized largely in the raising of onions, though other products are raised in large quantities. About four hundred acres are now under affective cultivation and the company has made the best of improvements on the property, in the operation of which a large force of men is employed throughout the entire year. The output of onions alone aggregated fully sixty thousands bushels in 1909, and this brief statement indicates the scope and importance of the company's operations, which have marked bearing on the industrial prosperity of Hardin county. Mr. Stambaugh resides in the attractive little village of McGuffey and is known as a young man of marked business acumen and executive ability, being one of the substantial capitalists of his native state. In politics he is arrayed as a staunch supporter of the principles and policies for which the Republican party stands sponsor, and he is affiliated with the lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Kenton, as well as with the Modern Woodmen of America. He is genial in his bearing, liberal and tolerant in his association with his fellow men, and is held in high esteem in the community in which he has elected to maintain his home and in whose welfare he shows a lively and helpful interest.

On November 5, 1902, Mr. Stambaugh was united in marriage to Miss Nellie Conner, daughter of John P. Conner, a representative citizen of Hardin county. Mr. and Mrs. Stambaugh have no children.

William A. Fullilove, general merchant at McGuffey, Hardin county, Ohio, has been in business here since 1898. Mr. Fullilove is a native of Kentucky. He was born in Boone county, July 17, 1854, son of John H. and Berilla (Arnold) Fullilove; and was educated in his native state, for a time being a student at White Haven Boarding School. In 1880 he entered the employ of the T. & O. C. R. R., and with headquarters in Marion county, Ohio, was on the road for many years. He was appointed postmaster of Martel, Ohio, and served as such under

Grover Cleveland's second administration. Coming to McGuffey in 1898, he turned his attention to general merchandising, and from the first has met with merited success. He carries a well assorted stock of first class goods, worth on an average six thousand and five hundred dollars, and occupies his own building which he erected in 1903. In addition to this property, he owns real estate at other places.

Mr. Fullilove married in Knox county, Missouri, Miss Susie Burton, and they have one daughter, Ethel, wife of Henry Wallace. Fraternally, Mr. Fullilove is identified with Calantha Lodge, No. 116, Knights of Pythias. Mrs. Fullilove is a member of the Disciple church.

George W. Klingler.—The Klingler name is an old and honored one in Hardin county, and it also belongs to some of the pioneers of the county. This family trace their ancestry in this country to John Klingler, who came many years ago from his native land of Switzerland to the United States and with his family located in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and there his children were born. That family included Adam Klingler, who finally moved to Perry county, Ohio, after his marriage to Elizabeth Fielder. There they entered one hundred and sixty acres of land during President Andrew Jackson's administration, reared their family and died in peace and plenty. They became the parents of twelve children, but only David, George, Jacob A., Joel, Margaret and Leah moved to Hardin county, but not all at one time, although inside of five years.

David Klingler came to this county in 1848, and the land which his father entered he gave to him, it being then in its virgin state, and it took hard and incessant toil to bring it to the productive place which it soon was. He built a hewed log house there with a board floor, it being rather a comfortable and commodious dwelling, and he married Miss Sarah Brosius, of German parentage. Her people, who were wealthy, emigrated to this country in an early day. To David and Sarah Klingler were born eighteen children, namely: Amos, Reuben and Joshua (twins), Charles, David, Melanchton, Adam, Jacob, Sarah, Calvin, Franklin, William, Mary and Amelia (twins), Douglas, Silome, Cyrus and Catherine. Amos, Douglas and Amelia are residents of Hardin county. David Klingler, the father, died in 1875, his wife Sarah having passed away twenty-four years ago.

Amos Klingler, the first born of the eighteen children, was born in Perry county, Ohio, in 1842, and he has always followed agricultural pursuits. In 1865 he bought his present farm of eighty acres of wild and unimproved land, but this unproductive place soon gave way to a valuable and well cultivated homestead. In 1862 Amos Klingler married Miss Lucinda Greenawalt, from Allen county, Ohio, and their eight children are: David H., Reuben M., John C., George W., Clara, Isaiah, Nathan L. and Adam. Clara, the only daughter, is the wife of C. M. Clun.

George W. Klingler was born in Liberty township, Hardin county, June 6, 1867, and he was reared and educated in his native township, and adopting the vocation of his ancestors he has become a prominent

and successful agriculturist. He began life for himself without capital save willing hands and ready mind, and his first investment in land was but a small tract. To that he soon added forty acres more, then an additional twenty and kept on increasing his landed possessions until he now owns an estate of one hundred and seventy-five acres of the finest farming land of the community and improved with as fine a set of buildings as are found in Hardin county. His barn is a convenient and commodious structure erected in 1904, and the home, modern and complete in its appointments, was built in the following year of 1905. Mr. Klingler makes a specialty of raising hogs.

On August 26, 1893, Mr. Klingler was married to Miss Bessie, a daughter of the Rev. Eli Beagle, a minister in the Dunkard church. She was born in Blanchard township of Hardin county in 1872. The four children of this union are: Chauncey V., born in 1894; Gladys, in 1898; Amos E., in 1902; and Raymond, in 1904. The family are members of St. Paul's Reformed church and Mr. Klingler is a member of the Grange.

Henry Elroy Dickinson, a banker and merchant of Mt. Victory was born July 16, 1857, in Logan county, Ohio, and is a son of Louis and Mary Ann (Beck) Dickinson. His grandparents were Quakers and the grandfather, Thomas Dickinson, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and came from Virginia to Ohio, where he settled near Zanesfield. They endured the hardships of pioneer life, and on account of Indian troubles had to move farther into the woods, as at that time Zanesfield was only a trading place. He located near Rushcreek lake where he lived until his death.

Louis Dickinson was born in Logan county, Ohio, and in his youth taught school. He became a farmer, which business he followed the remainder of his life, in connection with stock-raising. He was an earnest and active member of the Methodist church; politically he was a Republican and filled various local offices. His wife was born in Hardin county, and was a daughter of St. Leger Beck, a farmer. Louis Dickinson and his wife had, besides Henry E., children as follows: Joshua Newton, a farmer of Elk City, Oklahoma; St. Leger, a farmer of Cleveland, Oklahoma; Adelia, wife of J. M. Keller, a farmer of Houston, Texas; Margaret, wife of William Dixon, of Ray, Colorado. Mrs. Dickinson died in March, 1864, at the age of twenty-seven years. Mr. Dickinson married (second) Elizabeth Rosebrook, who is still living. Their children were: Minnie, wife of Rev. D. G. Hall, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church, at Forest; Ella, wife of William Irick, a farmer near Rushsylvania; and Robert L., in dairy business at Findlay.

After reaching the age of sixteen years Henry E. Dickinson attended the Rushsylvania high school, Ada University and Delaware University and a commercial college. When twenty-two years of age he engaged in teaching school. In 1884 Mr. Dickinson removed to Kansas, where he spent five successful years in farming; for one year he was employed as clerk in a mercantile establishment, and returning to Ohio, he engaged in the implement business at Bellefontaine, Ohio. A year later he located in Mt. Victory, where he entered into partnership

WATSON SPENCER

with T. M. Wallace, in the hardware and implement line, and they had the most extensive establishment of the kind in Hardin county.

Mr. Dickinson has invested in various business enterprises, and is looked upon as a keen, clear-headed man of business. In 1893 he became cashier of Mt. Victory Bank, and in 1904 became its vice president. Besides his financial interests in other lines, Mr. Dickinson takes an active interest in farming, having several farms in Hardin county. He is much interested in stock raising. He was promoter of the erection of the large business block, of brick, covering a square block, in Mt. Victory, and with his partner, W. Witcraft, promoted what is known as the Dickinson-Witcraft Addition to Mt. Victory. They improved and built up the road out of the city known as the West Mansfield pike. Mr. Dickinson is considered one of the leading business men of the county, and is highly esteemed by all.

Mr. Dickinson is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a member of the Masonic order, being affiliated with the Blue Lodge, the Commandery and Council at Kenton, and Consistory of Dayton and Cincinnati. He belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of Kenton, and the Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Mt. Victory. He is strongly Republican in political views, though he has never cared for public office. He is now a member of the county executive committee. He also served as state delegate for years, is interested in education, having served for fifteen years as a member of the school board.

March 5, 1884, Mr. Dickinson married Elizabeth Amanda Wallace, born July 1, 1863, daughter of Alexander and Mahala (Roberts) Wallace, pioneers of Logan county, Ohio, both deceased. Mr. Dickinson and his wife became parents of three children, Lewis Clyde, who died at the age of two and one half years, Mary Twila and John Alexander. Mary T. is a graduate of Mt. Victory high school and of Ada University and also attended Delaware University two years, and is now attending National Park Seminary, in Maryland, where she will be graduated this year. John Alexander took a course in the Michigan Military Academy and entered Kenyon College at Gambier, Ohio, in 1909.

Thomas J. Spencer, who owns a large farm in Roundhead township and looks after his extensive interests, having practically retired from active business life, is a native of the township, born October 23, 1841, a son of Watson and Elnore (Rutledge) Spencer. Watson Spencer was born in Clinton county, Ohio, in 1812, and his wife's parents were from Maryland. They were the parents of seven children, five of whom lived to maturity: Mary A., Elizabeth J., Louisa, Melissa and Thomas J. Mr. Spencer and his wife moved to Logan county during their early married life, and about 1838 located in Hardin county, in Roundhead township, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. Spencer died in 1879 and his wife in 1851.

The boyhood of Thomas J. Spencer was spent on a farm, and he received a good education in the common schools. At the age of twenty years he enlisted in Company E, Eighty-second Ohio Regiment, the date

of his enlistment being November 13, 1861. He went first into camp at Kenton, and the first battle in which he participated was the second battle of Bull Run. He served in the Army of the Potomac, and took part in the battles at Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. In the fall of 1863 the Eleventh Army Corps was sent farther west and Mr. Spencer took part in the battles of Wauhatchie Valley, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge and Chattanooga. He re-enlisted during the Atlanta campaign, and was present at the fall of Atlanta, was also with Sherman in his "march to the sea," and was disabled at Savannah. Mr. Spencer returned to Ohio and was mustered out June 23, 1865. He receives a pension of twelve dollars a month. At the close of his service he engaged in farming in Roundhead township, and was married September 29, 1867, to Mary A. Gossard, who was born and reared in Auglaize county, Ohio, the date of her birth being May 31, 1849. She spent her childhood on a farm and attended a common school. To Mr. and Mrs. Spencer eight children were born, namely: Francis, Nora E., Hiram F., Ely J., Thomas J., Wilber E., Lewis V. and Alta.

Mr. Spencer is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Fletcher Chapel, and is one of the church trustees. He belongs to West Newton Post, Grand Army of the Republic, and politically he is a stanch Republican. His farm of two hundred and seventeen acres is one of the best in the county, and he has been very successful in its conduct. He is an enterprising, industrious man, and is highly respected by all who know him.

James E. Gasson.—Among the many enterprising and successful business men of Hardin county, James E. Gasson, a druggist in Kenton, holds high rank. A son of Frank Gasson, he was born, November 15, 1875, at Versailles, Darke county, coming on the paternal side of pure French ancestry.

His grandfather, John Francis Gasson, a native of France, left his native country about 1830, coming directly to Ohio. He located in Darke county, at Jacksonville, now called Versailles. He was a man of culture, well educated, but had never adopted a profession. Buying a tract of wild land, he turned his attention to farming, and there spent his remaining years, passing away at a ripe old age. His wife, formerly Miss Anna Paget, was born and bred in France. She died on the home farm, in Versailles, before he did.

Frank Gasson was born in the Department of Lorraine, France, and when scarcely a year old was brought by his parents to Ohio. In early manhood he went by way of Nicaragua to California, where he was employed in mining for a number of years. Returning to his old home in Versailles, Ohio, in 1872 he conducted a general mercantile and provision business during the remainder of his active career, and is now living there retired from business cares. He married Rachel H. Barley, who was born in Marion, Grant county, Indiana, a daughter of Conrad and Rachel (Rickel) Barley, both natives of Bedford county, Pennsylvania. They reared four sons and one daughter, namely: Daniel V., John F., George, James E., the subject of this brief sketch, and Clara L.

After his graduation from the Versailles high school, James E. Gasson entered the Ohio Northern University, at Ada, and was graduated from the Pharmaceutical Department with the class of July, 1895. He was subsequently employed as clerk in a drug store at Versailles until 1896, when he accepted a similar position in Kenton. In 1901 Mr. Gasson embarked in business, in Kenton, on his own account, and has here built up an extensive patronage as a druggist.

Mr. Gasson married, September 27, 1899, Jennie D. Pague, who was born in this city, a daughter of Alfred W. and Sadie (Lee) Pague, natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Gasson have one child, Vernon Joye. Mr. Gasson is a member of the National Association of Retail Druggists, and of the Ohio State Pharmaceutical Association. Politically he is a Democrat. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Pythias, to the Modern Woodmen of America, and to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Religiously he is a Methodist.

Philip and Peter Boehm.—Among the worthy and successful farmers of Washington township, Hardin county, Ohio, are the Boehm brothers, who own and occupy the old Boehm homestead, a fine farm of one hundred acres, where their father, John Boehm, settled nearly thirty years ago.

John Boehm and his family emigrated from Germany to this country in 1881, and came direct to Hardin county, Ohio, where he spent the rest of his life and died, his death occurring in 1891. At the time of his settlement here forty acres of his land were covered with a heavy growth of timber. He and his wife, Elizabeth (Neff) Boehm, were the parents of six children, all born in Germany, namely: Catherine, in 1855, is deceased; John, Jr., 1857, is deceased; David, 1859; Maggie, 1861; Philip, 1864; Peter, 1866. The mother died in 1903.

Since 1892, the Boehm farm has been owned and occupied by the two sons, Peter and Philip, who have cleared away much of the forest and made many needed repairs in the farm buildings, and as a result of their energetic efforts the fields are under a high state of cultivation, and the general appearance of the premises indicates the prosperity which is theirs.

Both brothers are married. In 1894, Philip Boehm married Miss Anna K. Getzinger, a native of Minnesota, and they have one daughter, Mary. In 1890, Peter Beohm married Miss Mary W. Barkley, a native of Pickaway county, Ohio. To them have been given six children: Viola, who died at the age of eleven; Amelia, Cora, Henry W., Kate A., and Edward N.

Another brother, John Boehm, Jr., deceased, spent his life on a farm in Hardin county. He left five children, namely: J. P., Elizabeth, Philip J., John and Henry. Of this number Philip J. lives on the home farm, a tract of fifty acres. He was born here in 1884. In 1908, he married Miss Matilda Reddick, a native of Hancock county, Ohio, and they have one child, Lester H.

L. L. DRUMM, a successful carpenter and farmer of Hardin county, Ohio, whose home is located in Mt. Victory, was born in Delaware county, Ohio, January 28, 1855, and is a son of William and Mary A. (Sidels) Drumm. William Drumm was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, December 2, 1824, and died in 1908; he settled in Dudley township, Hardin county, in 1883, and carried on a farm until 1906, then moved to Mt. Victory and retired from active life. He was a carpenter and worked some at his trade, besides being a very successful farmer. He was a member of the Christian church and affiliated with the I. O. O. F. Politically he was a Democrat and was actively interested in his party's interests. His wife, who was born February 12, 1825, was a daughter of Jacob Sidels, who died when she was an infant. William Drumm was a son of Peter and Permelia (Dowel) Drumm, natives of Pennsylvania, who came to Ohio in 1819 and later located in Muskingum, Delaware county. William Drumm and his wife were parents of seven children, all of whom are living, as follows: John Milton, of Union county; Peter S., a farmer of Dudley township, Hardin county; William A., a farmer of Buck township; L. L., the fourth child; George W., a laborer, living in Mt. Victory; Virgil, a carpenter of Union county; and Emma J., wife of James Allen, of Bellefontaine.

The school days of L. L. Drumm were passed in Delaware county and he attended the public schools. At the age of eighteen years he began working in a saw mill, which he continued some time, and also worked at farming. At the age of thirty years he took the management of the M. M. Thompson, mayor of Kenton, farm of four hundred acres, and served twelve years. He then purchased his farm in Dudley township, which he successfully conducted until 1904, when he sold it and removed to Mt. Victory, following the carpenter trade since that time. He is an expert at his trade and has been very successful in all his undertakings. Mr. Drumm has now sold his farm and invested in property in Mt. Victory. He is a man of stability and influence, and actively interested in public affairs; he is a Democrat in politics and served five years as a member of the school board, also three terms as supervisor. He has a host of friends, and has been affiliated with the I. O. O. F. eighteen years. In his dealings with his fellowmen he has shown strict honesty and integrity, and is recognized as one of the representative citizens of the county.

In 1874 Mr. Drumm married Delilah Conklin, born May 3, 1857, daughter of William Conklin, a farmer of Marion county, and a soldier in the Civil war, who died in Andersonville prison. He married a Miss Preston, and they removed from New York to Ohio, becoming pioneers of Marion county. The Preston family came from England and became pioneers of Hardin county, being among the earliest families in the county. Mr. Drumm and his wife became parents of children as follows: Wilbert K., married Lily Marten; they live in Mt. Victory and have three children; Henry A., married Jenny Marten, sister of his brother Wilbert's wife, and they have two children; Edith A., wife of J. O. Moore, a farmer of Hale township, has one child; Floyd McKinley is at home; and Pearl G. is also at home. It is a

JOHN WHITMORE AND FAMILY

notable fact in the Drumm family that until the death of Mr. Drumm's father, in 1908, there had been no deaths in the family for a period of forty-eight years.

William Kahl, a hardware merchant of Dola, Hardin county, Ohio, was born in 1877, in the county and township in which he now lives, son of Nicholas and Wilhelmina (Heinish) Kahl, natives of Germany, who emigrated to this country about 1859. On his arrival in America, Nicholas Kahl settled at Kenton, in Hardin county, and subsequently he purchased a farm of one hundred acres in Washington township, to which he moved, and on which he has since made his home. He and his wife are the parents of eight children, five of whom are living, namely: Fred, Emma, Caroline, Edward and William.

On his father's farm William passed his youth and early manhood, assisting in the work of the farm and attending the district school. Having a preference for a business life, he left the home place and engaged in general merchandising, and later devoted his attention exclusively to hardware. He has been in business since 1906, and recently, in 1910, entered into a copartnership with Delbert Reed. They carry a full line of first-class stock and are doing a prosperous business.

September 12, 1907, Mr. Kahl married Miss Lena Reth, a native of Ada, Ohio, born June 30, 1889. He is a member of the German Lutheran church, and stands high in the esteem of his fellow citizens.

John Whitmore.—One of the best known citizens of Pleasant township, Hardin county, Ohio, and one among its oldest residents is John Whitmore. He has met with gratifying success in his labors, and has now retired from active life and is spending his remaining years in the ease and comfort he has so well earned. Mr. Whitmore was born in Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, September 11, 1827, a son of Peter and Catherine Whitmore, both formerly of that state. Peter Whitmore and his wife had children as follows: Polly, Elizabeth, Catherine, Sarah, Louisa, Daniel, Peter and John. John is the only one who moved to Hardin county, Ohio, and he and Louisa, the latter of Richland county, Ohio, are the only surviving members of the family.

In 1856 Mr. Whitmore moved to Ohio and settled in his present home, purchasing one hundred acres of land. He added to his land sixty acres and a half interest in fifty-five acres, both located in Blanchard township, Hardin county. He set to work to improve his land and erected good buildings. He built a saw mill and operated it thirty years. Mr. Whitmore was an enterprising, thrifty farmer, and became very prosperous; his honesty and high character were recognized by all, and he had the highest esteem of his neighbors.

On March 10, 1859, Mr. Whitmore married Margaret J. Gardner, who was born in Richland county, Ohio, September 22, 1834, and died in 1899. To them were born children as follows: Peter M., born in 1860, died in 1861; Elcey C., born in 1863, died in 1879; Sarah E., born in 1865, died in 1869; Ora L., Mrs. J. H. Cessna, born in 1868; Eliza J., Mrs. O. W. Schwemmer, born in 1870; one child who died in infancy;

Clarinda, Mrs. S. C. Stewart, born in 1872; and Lulu A., Mrs. C. M. Cessna, born in 1877. Elcey Oates left three children, Lowel, Carrie and John. To Mrs. E. J. Schwemmer three children have been born, Hazel C., C. W. and Arline B. Mrs. Ora L. Cessna had three children born, Olda, Margaret and Dana. Mrs. Clarinda Stewart had one son, Irvin G. Mrs. Lulu A. Cessna has two children, Geneva and Dwight. Mr. Whitmore has, therefore, twelve grandchildren. He has also two great-grandchildren.

In politics he was first a Whig then a "Know Nothing" and afterward a Republican until he supported Bryan and became a champion of free silver and he is still a Bryan man. Mrs. Whitmore was a member of the United Brethren church and as is also the family.

D. H. Dome & Son.—The firm of D. H. Dome & Son, of Forest, Ohio, dealers in clothing, footwear and gent's furnishings, has one of the main business establishments in Forest. Their stock is kept up-to-date, and of a superior quality, which warrants the fine trade they enjoy. Their treatment of customers is at all times courteous and businesslike, and their store is well lighted and commodious.

D. H. Dome, senior member of the firm, was born in Richland county, Ohio, where he was reared, and where he married Alice Kisor, of Wyandot county. He owns several farms in Wyandot county, which he rents very successfully, the date of his removal to Hardin county being 1904. To Mr. Dome and his wife but one child was born, U. J., junior partner of the firm above mentioned.

U. J. Dome was born in Wyandot county, Ohio, in 1888, was reared in his native county, and received his education in the common schools. He also took a course at Lima Business College, from which institution he was graduated in 1901. He is an enterprising and industrious business man, of pleasant manner and address, and takes great interest and pride in the success of the firm with which he is connected. Both he and his father command universal respect and have won many friends in Forest.

Reverend J. F. Henkle, D. D., pastor of the Methodist Protestant church of Forest, was born in Fayette county, Ohio, May 13, 1847. He was reared and educated in the public schools of his native county, and profited well by his years of study, being intensely interested in the acquirement of knowledge, so that he laid the foundation for his future career, that has always stood him in good stead. He is naturally of a studious, quiet disposition, and thinks deeply along any lines in which he is interested. In 1876 he was admitted to the Ohio Conference, and his first locations were in Fayette and Madison counties. During the thirty-four years he has been engaged in the ministry he has been constantly working within the boundaries of the same conference. His life in the cause of the gospel has been a long and earnest one, and he has converted many souls for the church. He has been very successful in his work, and during his pastorate he has been instrumental in erecting two new church buildings, at Milledgeville, Fayette county, and Big

Springs, Logan county. He also built a parsonage at Manchester, Adams county.

Reverend Henkle has always been in excellent standing with the members of the Conference, for three years ably discharging the duties of the office of president of the Conference. His relations with his church members and attendants have been mutually pleasant, and he has closed his service in various places to the mutual regret of all. He has held all important offices in the Conference, and is now treasurer of the Board of Church Extension, which post he has held twenty-one years. He is also treasurer of the Preachers' Aid Society, president of the Ohio Campmeeting Association at Sabina, Clinton county, Ohio, and was secretary a long term of years. For the last fourteen years he has served as a trustee of the college at Adrian, Michigan, and as recognition of his erudition and general ability, this college conferred upon him the well deserved degree of Doctor of Divinity. Reverend Henkle is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias.

Dr. Henkle has labored well and faithfully at Forest, Ohio, since 1906, and there enjoys the friendship and esteem of all who know him. He expounds the principles of the Gospel in an able and scholarly manner, with an earnestness and force which have gained him a wide reputation. He has a large congregation, and the stranger is always welcome within the precincts of the church.

Dr. Henkle's parents were Captain Ephraim and Mary S. (Carr) Henkle, both natives of Fayette county. Captain Henkle was a prosperous farmer and owned two hundred and fifty acres of land. Although exempt from service in the Union army on account of age, he organized a company in 1864, at the time of the invasion of northern states by the Confederate army, commanded Company F, One Hundred Sixty-eighth Ohio National Guard, advanced to the front, and was captured by John Morgan, though soon recaptured by Union troops. Though his service was brief it was eventful, and he served his country well. He had the following children: Ellen, deceased; Mary J., Mrs. Bush; William L.; Jason F.; Noah S.; Joel E.; Jesse C.; Catherine J.; Mrs. Hyer; Amanda S.; Mrs. Dowden; Almeda L.; Mrs. Cohogen; and J. F. Captain Henkle began life a poor boy, and by his industry and ambition became well-to-do, at his death having an estate of $20,000.

Dr. Henkle married (first) in 1872, Laura O'Day; to them was born one child that died in infancy, in 1873, four months after the death of the mother. Dr. Henkle married (second) in 1878, Nona Hamm, of London, Ohio, and to this union were born six children, only two of whom grew to maturity, Mary, born in 1881 and Allan E., in 1890. The former is a graduate of the classical course of Adrian College, in the class of 1905, and now a successful teacher in Montana. The latter is a student at Adrian College, where he is taking a scientific course.

H. Dale Shields, a successful druggist of Forest, is one of the enterprising and progressive citizens of that town. He is a native of Forest, born March 22, 1878, and is a son of J. L. and Adeline (Wilson)

Shields. J. L. Shields was born in 1840, in Ross county, Ohio, and came to Hardin county in 1852; he learned the trade of shoemaker, at which he worked ten years, and about 1865 embarked in livery business, which he carried on ten years. For the last seventeen years he has been conducting a harness business in Forest. He was married in 1872, and had three children, two of whom survive, namely: H. F., a druggist, and H. Dale. J. L. Shields is a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and its Encampment. His parents were Samuel and Mary (Clayton) Shields, who had three children, J. L., Rebecca and Nancy. Samuel Shields died when J. L. was six years of age, and his widow married (second) David Warrener, who was one of the first settlers of Hardin county. Mr. Warrener took an active part in the construction of the Big Four Railroad; he had three children by this marriage, only one of whom survives, Mrs. Wilson, whose husband is a native of New York.

H. Dale Shields graduated from Forest high school, and later took a course in pharmacy at the Northwestern University at Ada, Ohio, graduating in 1901. Upon returning home he opened a drug store in Forest, where by his close attention to business and his ability and industry, he has built up a good patronage.

Mr. Shields served in the Spanish-American war, being enrolled in Company I, Second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, for one year, and then honorably discharged. He belongs to Senate Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of Forest, also to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias, having passed the chairs in the two last named. He also belongs to the Royal Arcanum, of which he has served nine years as secretary. He is an earnest and active member of the First Methodist Episcopal church. During his business career in Forest Mr. Shields has acceptably filled the post of corporation clerk.

George A. Hively, who owns and occupies a fine farm of ninety acres in Washington township, Hardin county, Ohio, is one of the representative farmers and highly respected citizens of this locality. Mr. Hively was born on the farm on which he now lives, June 1, 1853, son of Samuel and Mary (Lower) Hively, natives of Columbiana county, this state. At an early day in the history of Hardin county, Samuel Hively came here and purchased three eighty-acre tracts, built a log house for his family, and in true pioneer style settled down to the work of clearing and cultivating his land. In time, his primitive cabin gave way to a substantial residence of modern construction, and in place of the forest were well cultivated fields. To him and his wife were born six children, namely: Malinda A., Amanda A., George A., Elizabeth, David and Emma, all now living in Hardin county. The parents died here in 1899, the father's death occurring two weeks before the mother's. Her parents, Daniel and Barbara E. (Obenour) Lower, were prominent early settlers of Columbiana county. Daniel Hively entered two eighty-acre tracts from the government and gave the land to his children.

George A. Hively grew up on his father's farm and received his education in the district school, and here he has continued in the same

MR. AND MRS. FAYETTE SCHOONOVER

occupation in which his ancestors were engaged. His father cleared two of the three eighties above referred to, and he has cleared the other. Since 1875 he has owned the farm on which he lives.

In 1874, George A. Hively married Miss Mary Lentz, daughter of John and Mary (Daniels) Lentz; and the fruits of this union are three sons: Anthony S., born May 16, 1876; David F., February 11, 1879, and William A., May 31, 1887. Anthony S., the eldest son, is a prosperous farmer and has eighty acres of valuable land adjacent to his father's which he has owned since 1902. He was married in 1900, and has two children, Paul M. and Corlean M. His wife, formerly Miss Lena Casper, daughter of John M. and Minnie Casper, was born on her father's farm in Washington township, Hardin county, October 15, 1875; David F. married in March, 1909, Gertrude Slater, of Henry county, and they have one child Esther E., born November 7, 1909, William A. was married June 3, 1909 to Mary Haub of Washington township, Hardin county.

The Hivelys are worthy members of the Church of Christ, in which George A. holds the office of deacon.

Fayette Schoonover.—For more than three score and ten years of his long and useful life Fayette Schoonover has been a resident of Pleasant township, Hardin county, and since attaining manhood has been conspicuously identified with the best interests of town and county, generously using his influence to promote the public welfare. As a successful agriculturist, a trustworthy citizen and a man of strict integrity and high moral principles, he has the respect and esteem of the entire community in which he has so long resided. A son of Joseph Schoonover, he was born, in 1825, in Tioga county, New York, where the days of his childhood were passed.

Joseph Schoonover was born January 5, 1775, in Delaware. Moving from there to New York state, he lived a number of years in Tioga county. Following the tide of emigration westward, he came to Ohio in 1838, locating in Pleasant township, Hardin county. Buying eighty acres of wild and wooded land, he began the arduous task of reclaiming a farm. There had been erected thereon a small log cabin; he and his family endured the trials and privations of life in a new country with fortitude and patience, and in due course of time he met with such success in his labors that he bought another tract of eighty acres. On the homestead which he improved he spent the remainder of his life, dying July 18, 1865, at a venerable age. He married, probably, in Tioga county, New York, Margaret Decker, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1782, and died in Pleasant township in 1852. They were the parents of eleven children, ten of whom grew to years of maturity, namely: Jacob, Daniel, David, Hannah, Lydia, Elias, Simeon, Maria, Fayette and Franklin.

When ready to begin the battle of life for himself Fayette Schoonover purchased one hundred and twenty-five acres of land not far from the parental homestead in Pleasant township, but before assuming its possession he sold forty acres of the tract. Regretting, however, with

the parting of any of his land he subsequently bought the forty acres back again. Meeting with excellent results in his agricultural ventures, Mr. Schoonover wisely made other investments in real estate, at one time holding title to two hundred and sixty-five acres of valuable land. During his years of activity he cleared and improved three farms, two of which he sold at an advantage, keeping his home farm of sixty-five acres. This he has brought to a good state of cultivation, rendering it one of the most productive estates in the vicinity.

On November 26, 1846, Mr. Schoonover was united in marriage with Elizabeth Holmes, who was born, February 22, 1829, in Carroll county, Ohio, a daughter of Richard and Catherine Holmes. Fifteen children were born of their union, namely: Emma, Alva, Hannah, Lydia, Mary, David, Iva, May, Della, Joseph, Eva, Richard, George, Frank and Kate. Mary, Iva, Richard and Frank are the only ones now living. Mary is the wife of C. B. Hickernell, and is the mother of five children: John, Helen, Warren, Bessie and Charles. Iva, who married W. A. Holmes, has four children, Leah, Amy, Roy and Ray. Richard married May Thompson, and they are the parents of three children, Merritt E., Karl T. and Harry F. Frank married Rosa Cake and they have two children, Irene and Edwin. A prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which his family also belong, Mr. Schoonover has served as steward of the church, and for many years has held the office of class leader, filling the duties of the position with ability and dignity. The sixty-third anniversary of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Schoonover was celebrated on the 26th of November, 1909, and was attended by their three children, seven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

John Weir, who lives in Forest, Ohio, and owns a farm in Jackson township, Hardin county, was born in Coshocton county, Ohio, February 28, 1844. He is a son of Robert and Elizabeth (Hamilton) Weir, the former born in Ireland, in 1805, and the latter, of Irish parentage, died in 1868. Robert Weir was a blacksmith by trade and an expert mechanic. He enlisted in the One Hundred and Eighteenth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and died in active service at Falmouth, Kentucky, in 1862. His eight children were: Margaret, Elizabeth, Eleanor (deceased), Sarah (deceased), Mary D. (deceased), John, Thomas J. (deceased), and Robert A. John is the only one living in Hardin county.

The early childhood of John Weir was passed in Coshocton county and he received the latter part of his education in Hardin county, Ohio, to which place his parents removed when he was thirteen years of age. He purchased a farm of forty acres in Jackson township, where he lived forty-two years, and brought it to a high state of cultivation. He became a successful farmer and has now retired from active life, to live in the town of Forest, the farm being carried on by his son. Mr. Weir served as township trustee seven years and has for the two years past held the office of township assessor, which he still holds. He is well known and highly respected, being one of the prominent citizens of the town. He now deals extensively in stock, buying and shipping to Buffalo, New York, and ships about three carloads weekly.

Mr. Weir has been married twice, first, December 19, 1867, to Miriam Case, and to this union were born children as follows: Professor W. O. Weir, superintendent of the Dunkirk school; Arthur J.; Edgar C.; and Clarence O. Mrs. Weir died October 3, 1907, and Mr. Weir married (second) in 1909, Sadie Yarnell.

Adam Krammer, of Washington township, Hardin county, Ohio, is a fair example of the Americanized German, whose loyalty to his adopted country together with his hard work and good management have placed him in a position where he enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens. He was born in Germany, in 1844, son of Peter and Barbara Krammer. The father died in Germany in 1859, and a few years later, in 1866, the mother came to America and took up her residence in Columbus, Ohio. They were the parents of eight children: Peter, Annie, Barbara (1), Barbara (2), Adam (1), Adam (2), Catherine and Abalona, most of whom are deceased.

In his native land the subject of our sketch grew to manhood, received a liberal education, and learned the trade of stone cutter. He worked at his trade there until 1871, when he came to America. Landing in this country on the 24th of June, he made his way to Columbus, Ohio, where his mother had settled, and there for two years Adam continued to work at his trade. In 1873 he came to Hardin county, and that same year he bought eighty acres of land in Washington township. Two years later he bought thirty-five acres more, and in 1904 he purchased an additional forty acres. Thus not by speculation but by persistent labor and careful management he in time acquired a fine tract of land, which he paid for with its own products. Of this hundred and fifty-five acres he has cleared sixty-five; he has ditched and drained his land, erected buildings, and made various other improvements and today ranks with the up-to-date farmers of his community.

In 1865, in Germany, Mr. Krammer was first married, to Eva Orris, whose death a few years later left him with a family of small children. One child died in Germany, and another in this country the year following their settlement here. Two of the children of that marriage, Kate and Lizzie, are still living. In March, 1873, Mr. Krammer married Miss Dena Eibling, who has borne him seven children, six of whom are living: Minnie, Anna, Flora, Louis, Carl, and Henry. Mrs. Krammer is a native of Marion county, Ohio.

Mr. Krammer was elected supervisor of Washington township, an office he filled for six years. From the beginning of his identity with the township he has always shown a deep interest in its affairs. He takes a just pride in the fact that he is an American citizen. He worships with the German Reformed church of Kenton, Ohio, of which he and his family are worthy members.

Samuel Briggs, a prominent and respected citizen of Forest, is a retired farmer. He was born in Richland county, Ohio, July 17, 1834, and is a son of William and Mary (Banks) Briggs, both natives of Lincolnshire, England, from which place they emigrated to America in

1833. They located in Richland county, Ohio, where William Briggs purchased two quarter sections, to which he soon added another quarter section, and subsequently added eighty acres more to his estate. He was a thrifty, industrious, and progressive farmer, and became an influential citizen. His children were: William, George, Mary, Robert, Samuel and Matthew. The first four children were born in England and the last two in Richland county, Ohio; Samuel is the only one surviving.

Samuel Briggs was reared and educated in his native county, and when old enough worked out for neighboring farmers by the day or month. In 1861 he removed to Hardin county, and there bought his first farm of eighty acres, which was then almost in its wild state. This farm cost him eleven hundred dollars, and in 1857 he sold it for twenty-eight hundred. He then purchased a farm of eighty acres in Hancock county, Ohio, which he improved and sold, doubling his investment. In 1879 Mr. Briggs purchased his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which contains gas wells in operation. Later he purchased twenty acres in Forest, besides which he owns the house and lot where he resides. Mr. Briggs enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens, and has served the town as councilman and a member of the school board. While living on his farm he served as trustee of Jackson township. Mr. Briggs is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which order he is a past noble grand. In 1861 Mr. Briggs married Jane Spencer, who was born in 1840, and they became parents of two children, Mrs. Irene Snyder and Mrs. C. Dunham.

Dr. F. F. Swimley, one of the leading physicians of Forest, where he has been practicing some eleven years, has one of the best equipped offices in Hardin county for the practice of medicine and surgery. He was born in Springfield, Ohio, in 1871, and is a son of Dr. W. A. and Anna (Hopkins) Swimley. Dr. W. A. Swimley was born in Winchester, Virginia, and his wife was a native of Champlain county, Ohio. He is a graduate of Ohio Medical College, of Cincinnati, and first located in Patterson, Hardin county, in 1879; later he removed to Forest, where he remained a number of years and finally returned to Winchester, Virginia, his old home. He and his first wife had but one child, Dr. F. F. Dr. W. A. Swimley married (second) Ella Powell, of Springfield, Ohio, by whom he had three children, Lizzie, Dr. A. C. and Alonzo R., a pharmacist. The two latter are located at Winchester, practicing their professions. Dr. W. A. Swimley is a physician of wide reputation and ability, and is well known through Hardin county.

Dr. F. F. Swimley received his early education in the common schools and in Kenton high school, and later received a liberal education in the line of medicine and surgery. He graduated from the Illinois College of Pharmacy, a branch of Chicago University, in 1890, and for ten years practiced pharmacy. In 1898 he graduated from the medical department of Columbus University, at Columbus, Ohio, and took two special post-graduate courses on the diseases of the heart and lungs, of which he makes a specialty. He is a member of the State Medical Asso-

MR. AND MRS. C. B. DRUMM

ciation, and stands high in his profession. Dr. Swimley has won the confidence of the people of Forest, and has a good practice. He belongs to the Masonic Order, in which he has taken thirty-two degrees, and is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In 1892 Dr. Swimley married Maud M., daughter of Captain Joseph L. Dickelman; they have no children.

Charles Drumm, an enterprising and up-to-date stock farmer of Goshen township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born in 1881 on the farm he now owns and operates. Both his paternal and maternal grandparents were among the early settlers of Ohio. John Drumm, a tailor by trade, came to this state in 1833 and settled in Hardin county, where he and his wife, Martha, reared their family and passed their lives. Their children, in order of birth, were Chauncey, James, John, Jackson, William, C. B., Jane and Martha, and all are deceased. C. B. Drumm was born in Pennsylvania, September 7, 1831, and was quite small when brought by his parents to Ohio. On January 18, 1876, he married Miss Jennie Cowan, a native of Ohio, whose parents, Joseph and Isabell Cowan, were among the pioneers of Hardin county. Joseph Cowan bought and improved the farm which is now owned and occupied by his grandson, Charles Drumm. C. B. Drumm and wife were retired residents of Kenton, Ohio, and he died January 25, 1910. To them were born two children, Bell and Charles, the former now being deceased.

During the Civil war C. B. Drumm served his country faithfully and well as a soldier in the Union army. He enlisted on August 22, 1862, as a private in Company A, One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, the fortunes of which he shared until the close of the war. He was in numerous engagements in Virginia, was often in the thickest of the fight, and on April 6, 1865, at High Bridge, Virginia, was taken prisoner by the enemy. This, however, was only three days before the close of the war, when all prisoners were released. He was honorably discharged on June 13, 1865.

Charles Drumm was reared on the home farm, and on reaching adult age assumed charge of the farming operations, which he has since successfully conducted. October 3, 1906, he married Miss Florence Latham, who was born in Goshen township, Hardin county, Ohio, on March 9, 1884, a daughter of H. B. and Mary Latham. Fraternally, Mr. Drumm is identified with the Masonic order at Kenton, and both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church there.

John N. Pfeiffer, one of the prominent business men of Forest, was born in Goshen township, Hardin county, in 1877; he was reared on his father's farm at Pfeiffer's Station, and received his education in the public schools. He is a son of John and Margaret (Hile) Pfeiffer, both natives of Goshen township. The father, John Pfeiffer, owned the old historic Wheeler Tavern, which is mentioned at length elsewhere in this work. He died March 4, 1904, and his wife is still a resident of Hardin county. He was well known throughout the county and held many offices in his native township and county. He had many friends,

and stood well in the community, where his loss was universally mourned. He and his wife had eleven children, namely: Lizzie (deceased), Mary (deceased), Sophia, William, Anna, Edward, Minnie, Reverend Joseph (of the Methodist Episcopal church), John N., Earl and Bessie.

John N. Pfeiffer located in Forest in 1903, and the same year married Bertha, daughter of Louis Crum; they have no children. Mrs. Pfeiffer was born in 1879, in Dunkirk, Ohio. For six years Mr. Pfeiffer has carried on a profitable business as dealer in wagons, buggies, automobiles and storm wagons. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is Chief Patriarch of the Encampment. He and his wife are earnest and active members of the German Reformed church. He is a public-spirited, useful citizen, actively interested in public affairs.

C. M. Reigle, a rising attorney of the Hardin county bar, lives in Forest. He was born on a farm in Madison township, Hancock county, Ohio, in 1869, and is a son of Elias S. and Catherine E. (Cramer) Reigle, the former a native of Wyandot county, Ohio. Catherine E. Cramer was born in Germany, and emigrated to America in her youth; she had been liberally educated, and became a teacher in the Hancock county schools. Elias S. and Catherine Reigle had five children. Mr. Reigle served his country in the Civil war and was a member of one of the three companies which went from Ohio and later were merged into a company of sharpshooters; they accompanied Sherman on the famous "March to the Sea." Mr. Reigle was wounded at Atlanta, also at Resaca, Georgia.

C. M. Reigle was reared on a farm and received his education in the public schools of his native township and at Findley, Ohio. He studied law at the latter town and matriculated in the Northern Ohio University at Ada, Ohio, from which institution he graduated in 1893. He was admitted to the bar the same year, since which time he has been a resident of Forest. He stands high in his profession, and has the confidence and esteem of all who have had dealings with him. Before his study of law he taught school nine years in Hancock county. He is a member of the Baptist church of Forest, and for a number of years filled the responsible office of superintendent of Jackson Township Sunday School Association, which post he still holds.

October 23, 1893, Mr. Reigle married Addie A., daughter of William P. and Ann E. Harman, and to this union has been born one daughter, Lois, born in 1895. Mr. Reigle is a self-made man, a public-spirited citizen, and actively interested in public affairs.

Joseph H. Van Houten, who ranks with the prosperous and highly respected farmers of Hardin county, Ohio, occupies seventy-five acres of fine land in Washington township, which he has owned since 1902. Here he has erected a complete set of farm buildings, among the finest in Ohio, and made other improvements, thus enhancing the value of his property, and here he is carrying on general farming. He formerly owned sixty acres more, which he sold.

Mr. Van Houten is a native of Ohio. He was born in Morrill

county, in 1864, son of Joseph H. and Caroline (Keller) Van Houten, the former a native of that county and the latter of New Jersey. The father owned a farm and passed his life in agricultural pursuits. He was a veteran of the Civil war, for three years having served his country faithfully and well as a private in Company E, One Hundred and Twenty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He died in 1902; his wife, in 1901. They were the parents of five children: Charles, Joseph H., William B., Alice and Lora, all residents of Hardin county, except Charles, who is deceased. Lora is the wife of a Mr. Ludwig.

Joseph H. Van Houten, the subject of this sketch, spent his boyhood and received his education in Richland county, from whence, in 1879, he came to Hardin county, where he has since resided. Previous to settling down as a farmer, he was for fourteen years engaged in the manufacture of lumber. As showing his pluck and good management, we state that Mr. Van Houten bought his first land at $35 per acre, and went in debt for it. In ten years' time he made it pay for itself, and he then sold out for $60 per acre, thus nearly doubling the purchase price.

In 1880 Mr. Van Houten married Miss Maggie Davis, who was born in Hancock county, Ohio, in 1868, and they have one daughter, Esto May, now attending school. T. W. Davis, the father of Mrs. Van Houten, is also a native of Ohio, but his parents came from Scotland. He is the father of the following children, all living: William, Nettie, Maggie and Ella. William lives in South Haven, Michigan.

As a progressive and up-to-date farmer, Mr. Van Houten has identified himself with the Grange, in which he was honored with the office of master, a position he has filled acceptably. In his church, the Methodist Protestant, he has long been prominent and active, from time to time serving officially, the offices of class leader, trustee and steward having been filled by him.

L. A. Conklin, the enterprising and progressive editor of the *Forest Advertiser*, is also an able business man in other lines, and has various financial interests. He has been editor of the above named paper since 1907, and since 1899 has been engaged in real estate business. He has a farm of four hundred and seventy-two acres in Tennessee, besides property elsewhere. Mr. Conklin was born in Cass county, Michigan, July 29, 1865. He received his education in the common schools and Forest high school, graduating from this instituiton with the class of 1886. Mr. Conklin then spent fifteen years successfully in teaching in Hardin and Wyandot counties, five years of which he taught the A. Grammar Department of Forest.

Mr. Conklin has been a resident of Hardin county since 1876, when he came with his parents. His father, A. G. Conklin, was a native of the state of New York, and his wife, Rachel Conklin, of Champaign county, Ohio. He was a carpenter and first-class mechanic, and first moved to Hardin county in 1865; he remained but a short time and moved away, but returned in 1876 and remained. He and his wife were parents of but one child, L. A.

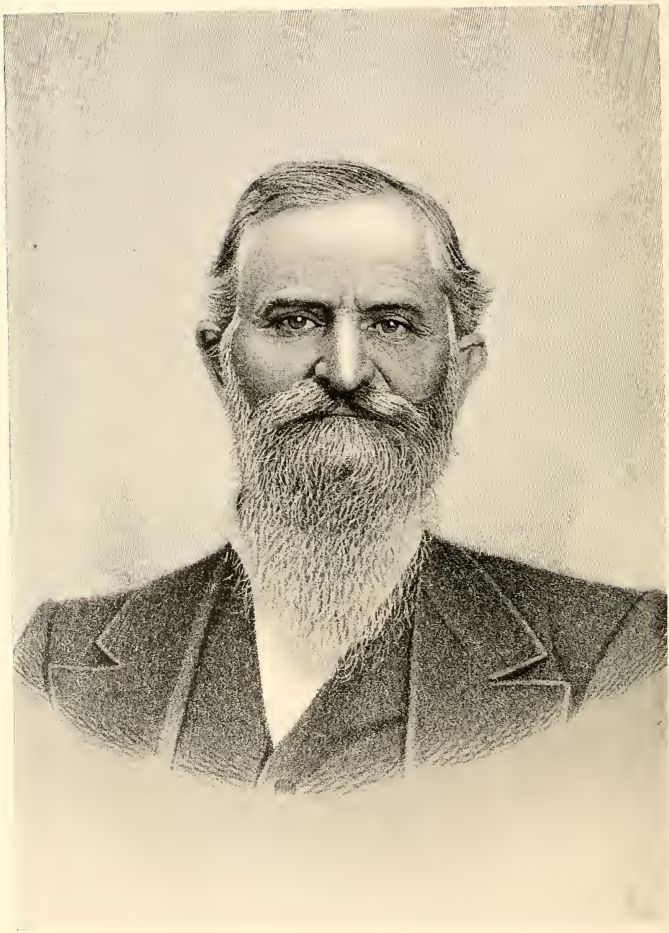
L. A. Conklin was united in marriage, in 1895, with Eva M., daughter of J. P. Naus, and to the union was born one daughter, May. Mr. Conklin has been successful in all his undertakings, and is considered one of the public-spirited, representative citizens of Forest, where he has a large circle of friends.

Adelbert G. Merriman.—Characterized by the same mental vigor, business aptitude, and progressive spirit that dominated the life of his father, the late Lewis Merriman, Adelbert G. Merriman has attained a position of note among the valued citizens of Kenton, where he is now actively engaged in the real estate and loan business. He was born, October 17, 1862, in Marseilles, Wyandot county, where his grandfather, Charles Merriman, was a pioneer settler.

Born in Watertown, New York, Charles Merriman emigrated when a young man to Ohio, settling first in Crawford county. In the latter part of 1826 he located in Marseilles, which was then in Marion county but in 1844 became a part of Wyandot county, formed from parts of Hardin, Marion and Crawford counties and from a part of the old Indian reservation. He married Susan Carey, a sister of William Carey, formerly a banker in Kenton, and they became the parents of a large family of children, of whom nine grew to years of maturity, as follows: Lewis, George, Willis, Enoch, Mrs. Rachel Chesney, Mrs. Sarah Powers, Mrs. H. C. Brunson, Belle and Mrs. Mary Lambert. Of these children Mrs. Brunson is the only survivor.

Lewis Merriman was born, May 4, 1827, in Bucyrus, Crawford county, Ohio, and grew to manhood in Marseilles, Wyandot county, where his parents settled when he was but six months old. Beginning his career as a clerk in his father's store, he became familiar with the details of mercantile pursuits, and on April 1, 1850, began business on his own account as a merchant and a dealer in land and stocks. He gradually enlarged his operations, extending them outside of the village limits, and in 1863 erected in Kenton, on the west side, the building now occupied as a store by Mr. Wendt. On the first of April, 1864, he established himself in business in Kenton, still retaining his interests, however, in Marseilles for fifteen years, forming a partnership with the late Anson Norton, under the firm name of Merriman and Norton, and opening a general store on the west side, two years later moving to what is now Kellogg's store. In 1868 he erected the building now occupied by Nourse & Caine, and the firm of Merriman & Norton immediately assumed its possession. In September, 1875, Mr. Norton retired from the firm and was succeeded by Mr. Merriman's son, Charles C. Merriman. The business was greatly enlarged and extended, being merged into a wholesale notion and gentlemen's furnishing business, and was in a most flourishing condition when the son was taken ill with typhoid fever, from which he died March 22, 1883. A short time after that sad event, Lewis Merriman closed out his stock, and thenceforward lived practically retired from business pursuits until his death, November 23, 1905.

Lewis Merriman was for many years easily one of the foremost citizens of Kenton, and one of the leaders in promoting its highest inter-



L. Merriman

A. G. Merriman

ests. When the old Thompson Exchange and Deposit Bank was dissolved he with others in 1872 founded the Citizens' Bank, an institution which he bought in 1874 and conducted successfully until it passed into the Kenton Savings Bank. The Kenton Savings Bank was organized out of the old Cary Bank in 1876, Mr. Merriman being one of its first directors. When, in 1877, the Citizens' Bank and the Kenton Savings Bank consolidated, it was installed in its present quarters. In January 1882, Lewis Merriman was elected president of this institution, and served in that capacity the remainder of his life. He was also officially connected with other enterprises, having been the founder of the Home Building and Loan Association and was a director in the Kenton Gas and Electric Company. He was active in the upbuilding of the city, having erected four of the five blocks in the business section of the city, while during his life time he had owned many of Kenton's most important business rooms. He was one of the most extensive real estate owners of this part of Hardin county, and, with Andrew Carnegie, was the founder of Kenton's Public Library, towards the establishment of which he gave the munificent sum of ten thousand dollars.

Lewis Merriman married Rebecca Hooker, of Marseilles, their marriage being solemnized in February, 1850. She died October 4, 1900. Of the children born of their union the following named are living: Luella, widow of F. C. Dougherty, an attorney in Kenton; Clarabelle, widow of D. T. Robey, of Kenton; and Adelbert G., the subject of this brief sketch.

But two years of age when he came with his parents to Kenton, Adelbert G. Merriman received his elementary education in the public schools of this place, after which he took a course of study at Eastman's Business College in Poughkeepsie, New York. About 1886 he embarked in business on his own account, forming a partnership with Ren McConnell, under the firm name of McConnell and Merriman and opening a clothing store. At the end of three years he bought out his partner and closed out the stock, after which he assisted his father in selling out his stock of notions and clothing. Mr. Merriman subsequently carried on business with his father, and has since continued as a dealer in real estate and money lender, in these lines of industry and in the settling up of his father's affairs being kept busy.

In June 1889, Mr. Merriman married Lillian Bowman, who passed to the higher life in 1897, leaving one child, Lewis. Mr. Merriman married for his second wife in July, 1899, Mame Bliss, of Ann Arbor, Michigan, and they have one son, Richard Bliss. Mr. Merriman is a steadfast Republican in politics, but takes no active part in local affairs. Fraternally he is a thirty-second degree Mason and a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and he is a trustee in the First Presbyterian church. He is a man of much ability and sound judgment, and is connected with various enterprises, being a director in the Kenton Gas and Electric Company, in the Kenton Savings Bank, in the Home Building and Loan Association, and is secretary and treasurer of the Forest Gas and Oil Company, of Forest, Hardin county. He built the A. G. Merriman Block in 1905, a fine office building, three stories in height and modern in all its appointments.

Charles William Smith has served Hardin county in many public positions, and he is now a member of its board of commissioners. He served Mt. Victory as a member of its city council, and was during one term its mayor, resigning that office in 1909 to assume his duties as one of the commissioners of Hardin county. He has also been prominent in the business life of his city and county, owning a valuable farm which he sublets in order to give his entire attention to his official position, and he is also quite extensively engaged in the buying and shipping of timber.

Mr. Smith was born in Dudley township of Hardin county on the 6th of March, 1862. His father, Charles Lorenzo Smith, was born in Baden, Germany, on the 20th of May, 1834, and he died on the 29th of January, 1896, at Mt. Victory. Coming from the Fatherland to the United States at the age of seventeen, he settled on a farm near Columbus, Ohio, and later coming from there to Mt. Victory was employed in a saw mill here for twelve years. He then bought a farm in Dudley township, which remained his home until within a short time of his death, afterward living with his son, Charles W. Smith. In 1859, in Hardin county, he was married to Sarah Ann Manley, and she died on the 21st of September, 1888, at the age of forty-six years. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Smith, including Charles, are: Thomas L., a farmer in Indiana; Joseph, a Hardin county farmer; George, employed in the steel works at Marion; Pearl, also at the Marion steel works; Rosetta, the wife of C. Woods, a retired farmer of Dunkirk; and Margaret, who is living at Dunkirk.

Charles William Smith continued his studies in the public schools until he had reached his seventeenth year, and from that on until he was twenty he farmed. Taking up the carpenter's trade he continued that vocation for four years, and from that on for twenty years he was in the business for himself. He is a charter member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity at Mt. Victory, is a member of the Odd Fellows and also of the Elks lodge at Kenton. He votes with the Democratic party.

Mr. Smith married on the 26th of November, 1881, Flora M. Harvey, who was born in Mt. Victory August 23, 1865, a daughter of Newton and Elizabeth (Smith) Harvey. Newton Harvey was born in Union county, Ohio, in 1842, was both a shoemaker and farmer, and he died on the 7th of September, 1900. Mrs. Harvey was a daughter of Hiram and Jane (Wilkes) Smith. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey, including Mrs. Smith, are: Loal and Otie, the former a farmer in Hardin county, and the latter the wife of M. Madory, also of this county. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith; Claude who died in infancy, Everett, born June 14, 1885, and Clarence, born October 4, 1890. Everett Smith married Goldie Dawson, and their two children are Waldo and Dawson. Mrs. Charles W. Smith is a member of the Rebekah lodge at Mt. Victory, and of the Pythian Sisters at the same place.

Phil M. Crow.—A man of high talent, versatile genius, and full of vim and energy, Phil M. Crow, of Kenton, Ohio, is widely known as a

sound and able attorney and counsellor at law, having the confidence of the courts, of his associates at the bar, and of an extensive clientage. He is also prominent and active in fraternal, political and financial circles, and in fact, in any project or organization that bears the earmark of advancement and progress for his fellow-men. A son of Ezram B. and Isabella (Hudson) Crow, he was born, May 27, 1866, in that part of Ridgeway, Ohio, which lies in Logan county, his parents being esteemed and honored citizens. He was married May 10, 1893, to Miss Linna A. Fogle.

Having acquired a thorough knowledge of the common branches of learning, in his native village, he began his professional career by teaching in the rural schools for several terms, and while thus employed, commenced, in 1882, to read law. Afterward, Mr. Crow entered the law office of Johnson and Crane, with whom he continued as a student about two years. Becoming proficient in his studies, he was admitted, March 7, 1889, to the bar of the supreme court of Ohio, and on April 12, 1889, was admitted to the bar of the supreme court of the District of Columbia.

On June 4, 1889, having completed the full course of three years at the Georgetown University School of Law, Mr. Crow was graduated with the degree of Master of Laws. Beginning the practice of his profession in Kenton, he formed a partnership with Fred M. Childs, and continued as junior member of the firm of Childs and Crow, from May 2, 1890, until the retirement of Mr. Childs from active practice. He was subsequently in partnership with William W. Durbin, as senior member of the firm of Crow and Durbin, from January 16, 1892 until May 19, 1902, since which date he has practiced alone, being now one of the foremost lawyers of Hardin county.

Mr. Crow was appointed city solicitor of Kenton, July 7, 1891, was elected to that office in 1892, and re-elected in 1894, has also served the city as a member of the board of sinking fund trustees and tax commissioners. Continuously during the past fifteen years, Mr. Crow has been one of the trustees of the Kenton Public Library. He is of a very sympathetic temperament, and is deeply interested in the suppression of cruelty to animals.

He organized the Commercial Bank, of Kenton, and the Alger Savings Bank, Alger, being a director in both, as well as their counsel.

Politically, he is an ardent and active Democrat, and was a delegate from the Eighth Congressional District of Ohio, to the convention at Chicago, which nominated William J. Bryan for president, in 1896. Fraternally Mr. Crow is a member of all the Masonic bodies in Kenton. is a member of the order of Odd Fellows, is a past exalted ruler of Kenton Lodge of Elks, and belongs to the Loyal Legion, Ohio Commandery.

John Anstine.—Widely known throughout a large part of the state as an expert road builder, John Anstine is numbered among the respected and influential citizens of Kenton, which has been his home for many years. A son of John Anstine, Sr. he was born, January 13, 1874,

at Roundhead, Hardin county, Ohio, of German ancestry. His grandfather, Henry Anstine, born, it is thought, in Germany, lived for awhile in Pennsylvania, later becoming a pioneer settler of Champaign county, Ohio. He subsequently purchased a flour mill on the Huntsville pike, three miles from Bellefontaine, and there spent his last years, the mill being now owned and operated by his son Charles.

Born in Pennsylvania, John Anstine, Sr., was very young when he was brought by his parents to Ohio, and but eight years of age when his mother died. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and as a young man located in Hardin county. Marrying a few years later, he took charge of the farm of his father-in-law, at Roundhead, and subsequently bought the estate, and there continued as a tiller of the soil until his death, October 13, 1880, at the age of thirty-seven years, ere reaching manhood's prime.

John Anstine, Sr., married, in 1872, at Roundhead, Hardin county, Maggie Pfeiffer, who was born in Pleasant township, Hardin county, October 7, 1846, a daughter of John Pfeiffer. Her grandfather, Michael Pfeiffer, spent the greater part of his life in Germany, coming from there when well advanced in years to Ohio, and spending the remainder of his life with his children, dying at the home of a daughter, in Pleasant township. He reared four sons and two daughters.

John Pfeiffer was born and reared in Germany. Emigrating to America at the age of nineteen years, he spent six years in Pennsylvania, and then went back to the Fatherland to visit his relatives and friends. Returning to this country in 1833, he came directly to Ohio, locating in Pleasant township, Hardin county. This section of the country was then in its primeval wildness, game of all kinds being very plentiful, and Kenton was a hamlet of log cabins. Purchasing a tract of timber two miles east of Kenton, he built a hewed log house and there resided until 1851. Coming then to Kenton he bought a flour mill on West Franklin street, and operated it successfully until 1865, when he traded it for a farm at Roundhead. Eight years later, he gave up farming and subsequently lived retired from active pursuits in Kenton. He came to this country a poor boy, but he was industrious and persevering, possessed good judgment, and in course of time acquired a competency that enabled him to spend the closing years of his life in ease and comfort, his death occurring when he was sixty-seven years of age. The maiden name of the wife of John Pfeiffer was Eva Elsasser. She was born in Hesse Castle, Germany, and preceded her parents to America. She survived him, passing away at the venerable age of eighty-one years. She reared six children. John Anstine, Sr.., and his wife reared two children, namely: John and Willis. Mrs. Anstine, a widow for many years, now resides in Kenton. She is a most estimable woman, and a conscientious member of the Lutheran church.

Educated in the district schools, John Anstine was reared to habits of industry, honesty and thrift. Beginning young to assist on the farm, he was engaged in agricultural pursuits until twenty-four years of age. In the meantime he had performed his full share of the work required to keep the public highways of the neighborhood in good condition,

and had carefully studied the question of good roads and their benefit to a community. Leaving the farm in 1897, Mr. Anstine engaged in the work of road building, and in the construction of substantal highways has gained a wide reputation, having been thus employed in a majority of the counties of the state. In 1907 Mr. Anstine became the junior member of the firm of D. R. McArthur & Company, thus becoming a member of one of the oldest road building companies in the state, Mr. McArthur having been thus employed for thirty-five years, and being well known throughout the state as an expert macadam road builder.

Mr. Anstine married, in 1897, Mary Louise McArthur, who was born in McDonald township, Hardin county, a daughter of D. R. and Elizabeth (Clark) McArthur. Mr. and Mrs. Anstine have two children, namely: Daniel McArthur and Margaret Elizabeth. Politically Mr. Anstine is a Republican, and fraternally he is a member of Pythian Lodge, No. 101, K. of P.; and of Kenton Lodge, No. 157, B. P. O. E.

Isaac Robert Draper.—Among the enterprising men who have been identified from early youth with the development and promotion of the agricultural prosperity of Hardin county is Isaac Robert Draper, now living retired from active business cares in Kenton. A son of Robert Draper, he was born, February 20, 1852, in Pleasant township, Hardin county. His grandfather, Isaac Draper, Jr., was born in Virginia, where his father, Isaac Draper, Sr. was a life-long resident. The great-great-grandfather of Mr. Draper was also, as far as known, a life-long resident of the old Dominion State. He was an expert cabinet maker, and one of the beautiful pieces of artistic furniture which he manufactured, a combination bookcase and secretary, made upward of one hundred and fifty years ago, has been handed down from generation to generation, and is now in the possession of Isaac Robert Draper, who prizes it highly.

Brought up in Virginia, Isaac Draper, Jr., followed the emigrant's trail westward in early life, becoming a pioneer settler of Coshocton county, Ohio, where he resided several years. Coming with his family to Hardin county in 1834, he bought timbered land on the Scioto river, about a mile from Kenton. He improved quite a tract of the wild land, and carried on farming. He spent the closing years of his life in Kenton, dying at a venerable age. His first wife, whose maiden name was Workman, died soon after their removal to Hardin county, leaving four children, Sarah, Nancy, Robert and Perry. He married for his second wife Susan Teeters, and they had one child, a daughter named Susan, and a resident of Florida.

Born in Coshocton county, Ohio, Robert Draper was a lad of seven years when he came with his family to Hardin county. This section of the country was then in its virgin wildness, its dense growth of timber being inhabited by the dusky savages and the wild beasts of the forest, while the wild turkeys were more plentiful than the barnyard fowls now are. At night all of the domestic animals had to be kept in an enclosure. For many years there were no railways and no

convenient markets, the people living chiefly on the products of their land and the fruits of the chase. After his marrigae Robert Draper settled on a tract of land which had been purchased by his father in Pleasant township. There, in the midst of the giant trees, he reared the humble log cabin in which his older children were born. Energetic and industrious, he cleared and improved a fine homestead of one hundred and twenty-eight acres, after a few years replacing the original log cabin with a substantial frame residence, and erecting good farm buildings. There he carried on general farming until his death, at the age of sixty-seven years. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Osborn, was born in Richland county, Ohio, and as a child was brought by her parents, Isaac and Margaret Osborn, to Pleasant township, where they were early settlers. She died at the age of fifty-seven years, after becoming the mother of eight children, namely: Isaac Robert, Emma, McClellan, Willis E., Alice, Cynthia, Elva and Clara. McClellan, Alice and Cynthia died in young man and womanhood, before their mother's death.

Brought up on the home farm, Isaac R. Draper was educated in the district schools, and while yet young obtained a practical knowledge of agriculture under his father's wise instructions. Marrying at the age of twenty-two years, he gained his first experience of domestic life in a log house on his father's farm, a part of which he rented. A few years later, having succeeded in his undertakings, he bought sixty acres of timbered land in Blanchard township, and having erected a log house and barn began clearing the land. Eighteen months later Mr. Draper sold at an advance and bought an eighty acre tract in the same township, thirty acres of which was cleared. He lived there a year and a half, and then purchased sixty acres of the parental homestead. Erecting a substantial set of frame buildings, he was there prosperously engaged in his independent calling until 1887, when he removed to Kenton, where he has since resided, leasing his farm.

Mr. Draper married, in 1874, Sarah Belle Carothers, who was born in Pleasant township, Hardin county, Ohio, a daughter of Samuel Henderson Carothers. Her grandfather, James Carothers, Jr., was born in Scotland, near Glasgow, in 1770, and as a young child was brought to America by his parents, James, Sr., and Mary (Maloy) Carothers. James Carothers, Sr., settled with his family on a farm in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, and there spent his remaining years, attaining the venerable age of ninety-four years. He was a man of magnificent physique, broad and well proportioned, standing six feet four inches in height. Enlisting in the Revolutionary army, he served as a soldier five and one-half years, a part of the time as one of Washington's body guard. He was subsequently a guardsman on the frontier for seven years, during which time he battled with and killed several Indians, never losing an opportunity to make way with a redskin, having vowed vengeance on the savages for their brutal massacre of a brother and his family. James Carothers, Jr., was a child when he came to America and eighteen years of age when the family settled in Huntingdon county. He succeeded to the occupation in

J. C. Miller

which he was reared, although prior to his marriage he was for awhile engaged in boating on the Susquehanna river. He subsequently located on a farm near Shirleysburg, Huntingdon county, and there spent the remainder of his years. He served during the war of 1812 as a soldier. The maiden name of his wife was Polly Fitzsimmons. She was born, in 1782, in Dublin, Ireland, and was brought to America by her parents, Patrick and Nancy Fitzsimmons, about the close of the Revolutionary war. Samuel Henderson Carothers was born, February 8, 1819, on the home farm in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, and there began life for himself as a teamster, receiving at first eleven dollars a month for hauling produce between Shirleysburg and Baltimore and other points, driving a six-horse team. When he had saved eighty-eight dollars he bought a pair of horses and a wagon, paying for the whole outfit, including the harnesses, fifty dollars. With this outfit, accompanied by his wife, he started for the western frontier, making an overland journey to Ohio, arriving in Greene county with sixteen dollars and fifty cents in his pockets. Resuming his former occupation, he began teaming to Cincinnati, taking produce to that city and bringing back coal. Prudent and economical, he accumulated some money, and in 1846 purchased eighty acres of land in Pleasant township, Hardin county. He continued teaming, however, four years longer, and then turned his attention to the care of his farm, in his operations being quite successful. He married first, June 22, 1840, Nancy E. Gilmore, who was born in Cumberland county, Maryland, January 25, 1819. She died October 12, 1861, leaving four children. Mr. Carothers married on June 24, 1862, Ann E. Woods, who was born in Union county, Pennsylvania, June 7, 1829, a daughter of Roland and Elizabeth (Musser) Reece, and of this union there were two children.

Mr. and Mrs. Draper have one son, namely: Clyde Draper. He was educated in Kenton, and was for three years a telegraph operator in California, but is now a shoe dealer in Kenton. Socially Mr. Draper belongs to Amicitia Lodge No. 79, I. O. O. F., and Mrs. Draper is a members of the Rebekahs of Kenton. Religiously both are valued members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

J. C. Miller, the pioneer shoe dealer of Kenton, Ohio, has been identified with this place since 1858, and since 1876 has had his son as partner, their business being conducted under the firm name of J. C. Miller and Son.

The Millers are of English descent and several generations of the family were born on Long Island, New York. J. C. Miller was born there July 27, 1830, a son of Enoch and Amy (Conklin) Miller, both natives of Long Island. Mrs. Miller also traced her ancestry to England. In their family were seven sons and one daughter, and of this number six are now living, J. C. being the second in order of birth. The father died in New York state at the age of seventy years; the mother at thirty-five.

At the age of fifteen years J. C. Miller, having finished his studies in the common schools, went into his father's shop and entered upon

an apprenticeship to the shoemaker's trade. This term of apprenticeship lasted until he was twenty-one, and he continued to work for his father seven years longer. Then, in 1858 he came west to Kenton, Ohio, and established himself in business here, at first supplying his his trade with the work of his own hands. And here he has continued for more than half a century, he having celebrated in 1908 the fiftieth anniversary of his business in Kenton.

In 1852, on Long Island, he married Miss Caroline Raynor, who was born there in 1832, daughter of Norton Raynor. She died at Kenton, May 16, 1909. To them were born two children, a son and daughter. The former, Henry J., born on Long Island, April 14, 1855, was three years old at the time the family came to Ohio; the daughter, Emma W., was born in Kenton, November 9, 1862. She was married October 14, 1885, to Ralph W. Rarey, a farmer of Hardin county, and they have three children, Frank, Amy and John.

Henry J. Miller received his education in the Kenton high school, and, following in the footsteps of his forefathers, he settled down to the trade of shoemaker, which he learned in his father's shop. In April, 1876, on reaching his majority, he became his father's partner and has since been in business with him. He married, October 13, 1880, Miss Emma C. Norton. A native of Ohio state and a sister of W. A. Norton. They have two sons, William Norton and Raynor, the former born July 28, 1881, the latter, September 13, 1894. William Norton Miller married, November 20, 1907, Miss Marie Andrews.

Both J. C. and Henry J. Miller are stockholders in the Kenton Savings Bank and in the Kenton Telephone Company, Henry J. being a director in the latter organization. J. C. Miller is the only one of the original stockholders of the Savings Bank now living. Religiously he is a Presbyterian. He joined the church in 1850, and for over fifty years has been one of its elders. His son is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Alvin L. Zuck.—An industrious and well-to-do agriculturist of Hardin county, Alvin L. Zuck, of Buck township, owns and occupies a farm which in regard to its appointments and equipments compares most favorably with any in the locality, manifesting in its neat and orderly appearance the thrift, care and good management of the proprietor. A son of Joseph Zuck, he was born, March 17, 1846, in Caledonia, Marion county, Ohio. John Zuck, his paternal grandfather, was, it is thought, born in Pennsylvania, of Dutch ancestry. Coming in pioneer days to Ohio, he lived for awhile on a farm in Ross county. Removing from there to Marion county, he bought raw prairie land in Marion township, and there devoted his time to clearing and improving a comfortable homestead, residing there until his death, January 1, 1861, at the venerable age of four score and ten years. He was buried in a cemetery which was laid out on his farm and given by him to the county. His wife, whose maiden name was Anna Van Guntine, survived him, passing away at the age of eighty years or more. They reared nine children, including: Abraham, Daniel, John, David, Joseph, Nancy, Fanny and Tena.

Born in 1811 in Ross county, Ohio, Joseph Zuck was there brought up and educated, going as a young man to Marion county. Although brought up on a farm, he began life as merchant, having a general store in Caledonia. Selling out in 1848, he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, buying his father's homestead property. A few acres had been cleared and a log cabin and a log stable had been erected. He set to work with a will to clear the remainder of the land, in the course of a few years having a well cultivated and productive farm. About the time of the Civil war, he erected a frame house, and later put up a substantial frame barn. In 1876 he sold that property and a year later bought land on Taylor Creek pike, Buck township, Hardin county, and was here prosperously employed in tilling the soil until his death, January 9, 1889. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Ann Kniesley. She was born in Pennsylvania, a daughter of Abraham Kniesley, who came from there to Ohio in early days, locating first in Marion county, from there moving to Richfield, Crawford county, where he improved a farm, on which he spent his remaining years. Four children were born of their union, namely: Alfred, who died when eighteen months old; Amanda and Melinda, twins; and Alvin L.

Growing to manhood in Marion township, Alvin L. Zuck was early initiated into the various duties and labors that fall upon a farmer's son, his help when out of school being needed by his father. After the death of both of his parents he succeeded to the ownership of the home farm, on which he toiled so faithfully, and continued its management until 1893. Selling the old homestead in that year to the Toledo and and Ohio Central Railroad Company he bought a farm of one hundred and fifteen acres on the Bellefontaine pike, but continued to reside on the place which he had sold. In 1894 Mr. Zuck bought the farm which he now owns and occupies. It is located on Bellefontaine pike, in Buck township, and contains two hundred and five acres of choice land, and has improvements of value, including a substantial and convenient set of farm buildings. Here he is carrying on his chosen calling with well deserved success.

Mr. Zuck married, January 28, 1871, Isabelle Hill. She was born in Scott township, Marion county, Ohio, January 17, 1844. Her father, Samuel Hill, was born in Knox county, Ohio, where his father settled as a pioneer on coming from Ireland, his native land, to this country. Samuel Hill, who was of Scotch ancestry on his father's side of the house, was reared on the home farm in Knox county, and when ready to begin life for himself bought land in Scott township, and on the farm that he improved resided until his death. He married Ann Jane Mitchell, who was born in Belfast, Ireland, and came with her parents in a sailing vessed to Ohio, where, in Crawford county, they subsequently spent their remaining years. Mr. and Mrs. Zuck have one child, Addie L., who was born December 31, 1872, in Marion county. She married Paul K. Sieg, and they have two children, Mary Isabelle and Edwin Lewis. Religiously Mr. and Mrs. Zuck are in sympathy with the teachings of the Methodist Episcopal church.

H. N. Bradley.—One of the prominent early families of Hardin county were the Bradleys, William and Anna (Baker)) Bradley, who established their home within its borders in the spring of 1857, making their journey hither with team and wagon and they settled on a farm in Lynn Valley, Lynn township. Their first purchase of land there was ninety-seven acres, mostly covered with timber, the only improvements consisting of a log house, an orchard of two acres and twenty acres of cleared ground. There these Hardin county pioneers lived and labored until their death, the husband dying on New Year's day, 1862, and the wife in the year of 1895.

H. N. Bradley, their son, was born in Madison county, Ohio, in 1850, seven years before the family emigrated to Hardin county, and he afterward lived on the homestead here until twenty years of age. Following this he was absent for a short time, and then returning to the old home place he bought the interests of the other heirs and became its sole owner. In time he succeeded in clearing the land of its timber, erected good buildings, including a home, and continued its cultivation until in the fall of 1904 he moved to Kenton and to the residence he had purchased on North Detroit street, where he yet resides, although he still continues to oversee the work of his farm. He has added eighty acres to the original homestead, making an estate of one hundred and seventy-seven acres, all of which is under cultivation with the exception of about eighteen acres of timber land. The farm contains two good residences and two orchards, and is one of the valuable estates of the township. In addition to his home place in Kenton Mr. Bradley also owns residence property on West Columbus street. He has served one term as a township trustee.

In 1879 he was married to Miss Mary R. Kinnear, a daughter of Frank and Mary Jane (Carruthers) Kinnear, natives of Ohio, and there were two children of this union. Mrs. Bradley died in February of 1883, and in 1884 Mr. Bradley wedded Mary Margaret, a daughter of John and Catherine (Fults) Flynn, the former from West Virginia and the latter from Hardin county, Ohio. Of the three children of this second union two are living. Mr. Bradley votes with the Republican party, and he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

James H. Ray, an energetic, enterprising business man, is identified with the mercantile interests of Hardin county as a provision dealer at Kenton, having a large and profitable trade. A son of John Ray, he was born, September 25, 1850, in Harrison county, Ohio, of Scotch ancestry. His grandfather, Jonathan Ray, was born it is thought in Scotland, and after coming to the United States settled first in Maryland. From there he moved to this state, and a few years later located as a pioneer in Adams county, Indiana, where he cleared a farm and resided until his death, at the venerable age of eighty-three years. Born in Maryland, John Ray came when a young man to Ohio, and lived for a while in Jefferson county. Migrating then to Harrison county, he was for ten years there employed in a mill. In 1851, accompained by his family, he journeyed by team to Adams county, Indiana. Purchas-

ing one hundred and sixty acres of wild land about eight miles south of Decatur, he built a hewed log house in the opening that he made and began the improvement of a homestead. When he had cleared a large part of his original purchase he bought eighty acres of near-by land. Placing a large part of this under cultivation, he sold out at an advance, and invested in one hundred and sixty acres, which he immediately began to clear. The country roundabout him was in its primeval condition when he settled in Adams county, deer, wolves and wild turkeys being plentiful, while Fort Wayne, thirty-five miles away, was the nearest market. He used to team all of his surplus products to that point, starting as early as three o'clock in the morning, taking provisions with him, and camping in a feed yard located in what is now the business center of that city. Industrious and practical, he accumulated a competency, and spent his last years retired in Monroe, Indiana, passing away at the age of seventy-eight years. His wife, whose maiden name was Mercy Smith, was born in Washington county, Ohio, and died at the age of sixty-five years.

One of a family of nine children, James H. Ray obtained his first knowledge of books in the pioneer schools of Adams county, Indiana, in the log cabin of pioneer days, when the seats were simply slabs with wooden pegs inserted for legs, and a board placed along one side of the cabin furnished the pupils a place on which to write. He assisted on the farm, remaining with his parents until attaining his majority. Beginning then his career as a independent farmer, he rented land for four years, and then bought a tract of timbered land, on which he built a log house, the first home which he ever owned. After clearing about twenty acres he sold at an advantage and rented his father-in-law's farm, which he managed successfully a number of years. In 1882 Mr. Ray in company with his brother-in-law bought one hundred and seventy-seven acres of land lying ten miles west of Kenton, in McDonald township. The following year the land was divided, and Mr. Ray lived for four years on his share of the estate. Going then to Van Wert county, he embarked in mercantile pursuits, continuing there for a while. Selling out, he was similiarly employed at Jumbo, Hardin county, for seven years, after which he was engaged in general farming, owning a farm of one hundred and twenty acres situated three miles east of Kenton. Since 1905 Mr. Ray has been prosperously engaged in the provision business at Kenton, his sons being associated with him.

In 1872 Mr. Ray married Martha H. Gilpin, who was born in Adams county, Indiana, a daughter of Jonathan and Martha Gilpin. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Ray, namely: Leonidas, who married Miss Desbaugh; Leona A., Catherine; Otto; May; Homer and Edgar. Politically Mr. Ray is a Republican and also a stanch supporter of the principles of the Prohibition party. Religiously both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Eugene Rogers.—No more worthy representative of the native born citizens of Kenton is entitled to mention in a work of this character than Eugene Rogers, a well known druggist, whose father, Dr. John

A. Rogers, was one of the earliest settlers of this part of Hardin county and a pioneer physician and druggist.

The Rev. John Rogers, grandfather of Eugene, was born in Frederick county, Virginia, and there reared to agricultural pursuits. From childhood he showed a strong tendency to religious thought and feeling, and early in life was converted, and from that time was a local preacher in the Methodist Episcopal church. Emigrating to Ohio, he became one of the first settlers of Greene county. He subsequently moved to Champaign county, locating near Mechanicsburg, where he spent his remaining days, passing away in 1848. His wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Herbert, was born and bred in Loudonn county, Virginia.

Dr. John A. Rogers was born in February, 1820, in Greene county, Ohio, and as a boy, being a diligent pupil, made the best of his opportunity to acquire an education in the pioneer schools of his times. He afterwards turned his attention to the study of medicine, in 1842 attending lectures at the Ohio Medical Institute in Cincinnati. In May, 1843, Dr. Rogers, with all of his earthly effects packed in his saddle-bags, started on horseback for Kenton. Hardin county was then a comparative wilderness, the few scattering settlers living in log cabins. Other settlers, however, were constantly making their appearance, and the location seeming favorable he concluded to take up his residence here and start in business. Forming a partnership, in 1845, with Dr. J. F. Ankeny, these enterprising physicians purchased a stock of drugs and opened the first drug store in Kenton, it being located in a small frame building on the east side of the square. The drugs, which were bought in New York, came via river, canal and lake to Sandusky, thence by rail to Republic, Seneca county, the nearest railroad station, from there being brought by team to this place. At the end of four years the partnership was dissolved and the goods sold to George Sweeney, who in turn sold out to Charles Ashton. In 1856 Dr. Rogers bought a half interest in the business, and a short time later bought out Mr. Ashton's entire interest, becoming sole proprietor of the establishment. Retiring then from the active practice of medicine, the Doctor devoted his whole time to the drug business, which is now carried on by his son, Eugene Rogers. He passed away in 1909, in the ninetieth year of his age. He was a member of Latham Lodge No. 154, F. & A. M., and served a number of years as a member of the Board of Education.

Dr. Rogers was twice married. He married first, in 1843, Clarissa Knight, of Miami county, Ohio. She died in 1848, leaving two children, namely: Eugene, the subject of this brief sketch; and Kate, wife of Thomas Cantwell. The Doctor married for his second wife Ann Elizabeth King, who survives him. Three daughters were born of this union, namely: Mary, Margaret and Clara.

After completing the course of study in the city schools, Eugene Rogers began assisting his father in the drug store, at an early age mastering the science of pharmacy. On May 10, 1864, he enlisted in the One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, went with his regiment to Virginia, and was soon appointed assistant hospital steward, a positon that he retained until the expiration of his term of enlistment,

when he was honorably discharged from the service. Soon after his return home he became associated with his father in the drug business, to which he subsequently succeeded, and is now carrying on an extensive and lucrative trade, being one of the leading druggists in this part of the county.

Mr. Rogers married, in 1903, Mozelle Walker, who was born in Dayton, Ohio, a daughter of General Moses and Mary L. Walker. Fraternally Mr. Rogers belongs to Latham Lodge, No. 154, F. & A. M., to Lima Chapter, R. & S. M.; and to Cantwell Post, No. 97, G. A. R.

W. Delano Combs, a popular and highly esteemed resident of Kenton, is one of the leading representatives of the dental profession of that part of Hardin county. No professional calling it is safe to say so aptly illustrates the swift advance of science in this age as that of dentistry, which, until a comparatively recent date, had scarce been elevated to a distinct and separate science, but was left largely in the hands of those unskilled in this particular branch of surgery. Dr. Combs was born, November 6, 1879, in Guernsey county, Ohio, which was likewise the birthplace of his father, James Combs. William Combs, the Doctor's grandfather, was a native of Union county, Pennsylvania, where he was reared to agricultural pursuits. A pioneer settler of Guernsey county, Ohio, he cleared and improved a farm from the raw land, and there followed farming many years, but is now living retired from active business in Cambridge, the county-seat. The maiden name of his wife was Delilah Kimball. The son of a farmer, James Combs continued to follow the free and independent occupation of his youth for many seasons. Retiring then from farming he is now, in company with his son John M. carrying on a substantial drug business in Byesville, Guernsey county, having a large and remunerative patronage. He married Allie McCulley, who was born in Guernsey county, a daughter of William and Sarah McCulley, and they reared five children, namely: W. Delano, Harry, John Kate and Pearl.

After leaving the district school, W. Delano Combs completed the course of study at the Kirkersville High School, and was subsequently graduated from the Antrim Normal School. Turning his attention then to the study of dentistry he became proficient in his knowledge of the science and in 1902, successfully passed the examination of the State Board in Columbus. Dr. Combs immediately commenced the practice of his profession in Kenton, and has met with eminent success as a dentist.

In September, 1905, Dr. Combs married Iva N. Rice, who was born near Kenton, a daughter of A. M. and Nancy (Derr) Rice, and they have one child, Dorothy Combs. The Doctor is a member of the State Dental Association, and is prominent in fraternal circles, belonging to Latham Lodge, No. 154, A. F. & A. M.; to Scioto Chapter, No. 119, R. A. M.; to Kenton Council, No. 65, R. & S. M.; to Kenton Commandery, No. 58, K. T.; to Scioto Camp, No. 11206, M. W. A.; to Kenton Lodge, No. 157, B. P. O. E.; and to Pythian Lodge, No. 101, K. of P.

JOHN H. STRONG a progressive and prosperous agriculturist of Kenton, is distinguished not only for his personal worth, but for the substantial and honored ancestry from which he is descended. A native of Kenton, he has here spent his years busily employed in the independent occupation upon which the wealth and prosperity of our great nation so largely depends. His father, the late Hon. Luther Martin Strong, noted as a soldier, statesman and learned jurist, was born on a farm near Tiffin, Seneca county, Ohio, June 23, 1838. He was a son of Jesse Strong and a grandson of Louis and Mary (Hill) Strong, of Maryland. A native of Maryland, Jesse Strong was born, February 12, 1801, near Frederick. At the age of thirteen years he came with an older brother to Knox county, this state. Ohio was then a vast wilderness, from which the wild beasts of the forest had not yet fled, but, with the dusky savage, were everywhere in evidence. Returning to his native state in 1827, he remained there three years, in the meantime taking unto himself a wife. In 1830 he came back to Ohio and settled with his bride in Seneca county. Buying a tract of wild land near Tiffin, he cleared and improved a good farm, upon which he resided until his death, March 19, 1876. He married a Maryland girl, Sarah A. Myers, who died on the home farm near Tiffin in November, 1868. Fourteen children were born of their union, and eleven of them grew to mature life, as follows: Margaret; Mary; Thomas and William, twins; Barbara; Luther; John; Wesley; Ira and Irena, twins; and Alva.

Luther Martin Strong received his elementary education in the pioneer schools of Seneca county, which he attended usually in the winter seasons only, his assistance being needed on the farm during seed time and harvest. At the age of nineteen he began teaching the winter terms of school, the remainder of the year attending the academy at Republic. Upon the breaking out of the Civil war he left the academy to raise Company G, of the Forty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, of which he was made captain. Going south, his regiment, with about fifteen hundred other troops, became the nucleus of the Cumberland Army. Captain Strong remained at the front with his command during the trying scenes that soon followed, participating in its many engagements, among which were the battles at Shiloh, Lawrenceburg, Liberty Gap, Chickamauga, Chattanooga and Missionary Ridge. At the battle of Chickamauga his regiment was on the left with General Thomas, and during a part of the engagement the command of its men fell upon Captain Strong, and he received special mention for coolness and bravery from both his brigade and division commanders. After the battle of Missionary Ridge, he was promoted to the rank of major, and in that capacity took part in the various engagements of the Atlanta campaign, including those at Buzzard Roost, Resaca, Pickett's Mill, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta, and Jonesboro. Soon after the latter engagement, Major Strong became the senior officer of the regiment, and was commissioned lieutenant colonel. He subsequently commanded the regiment in pursuit of Hood, and in the battles of Columbia, Franklin and Nashville. In the charge at Pickett's Mill he was wounded in the shoulder, but did not relinquish his command. In the battle that

occurred May 27, 1864, one of the hardest fought of that campaign, one half of the members of the Forty-ninth regiment were killed or wounded, while fifteen hundred of the division were either killed or wounded. In the battle of Nashville, December 17, 1864, Colonel Strong was wounded by a minie ball in the left arm. At the close of the war, Colonel Strong began the study of law, and on January 3, 1867, was admitted to the bar by the supreme court of Ohio. He immediately began the practice of his profession at Kenton, where he met with eminent success, winning a large clientage. He became very prominent in public affairs, and served with distinction in various official capacities. In 1879 he was elected to the state senate, and was re-elected in 1881. In 1883 he was made judge of the court of common pleas. In 1892 he represented the Eighth Ohio district in congress, and in 1894 was re-elected to the same position. He died on the 26th of April, 1903, honored and respected throughout the county and state.

Hon. Luther M. Strong married, February 13, 1865, Mary Milliman, who was born in Tompkins county, New York, December 26, 1837, a daughter of Hiram Milliman, and grand-daughter of Joseph Milliman, a life-long resident of New York. Hiram Milliman was born in eastern New York, and after attaining manhood bought a tract of wild land in Tompkins county. Building a cabin of round logs, he and his bride there began housekeeping, living in it until after the birth of their children. He cleared a large part of the land, set out fruit trees, and in course of time erected a substantial set of frame buildings. Selling out in 1853, he came with his family to Ohio, locating in Seneca county, where he bought land, and began the improvement of a farm. His career, however, was cut short by the grim harvester, death, in the following year, 1854, when he was but fifty-three years of age. Hiram Milliman married Sally Dyer, who was born at White Creek, New York, a daughter of Amherst Dyer. She was a descendant in the seventh generation from William and Mary (Suffield) Dyer, who emigrated to the United States in 1660, settling in Maryland. The line continued through Samuel and Ann (Hutchinson) Dyer; Edward and Mary (Greene) Dyer; Samuel and Tabitha (Niles) Dyer; Edward and Elizabeth (Fish) Dyer; Amherst Dyer; and Sally Dyer. Mary Greene, who married Edward Dyer, the third in line of descent from William Dyer, the emigrant, was a daughter of William and Mary (Sayles) Greene, a granddaughter of John and Ann (Almy) Greene, and a great granddaughter of John and Joan (Tattersal) Greene. Mary Sayles, who married William Greene, was a daughter of John and Mary (Williams) Sayles and a grand-daughter of Roger Williams, the founder of Rhode Island. Amherst Dyer, grandfather of Mrs. Luther M. Strong, was born in Rhode Island, and served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war, being under the command of Captain Thomas Clark, Colonel Charles Dyer, Captain James Parker, Colonel Cook, Captain Peter Wright, Captain Carlisle, Colonel Elliot, and under Captain Parker in Colonel Johnson's regiment, and under Captain Samuel Dyer. He also served on board a privateer, and was twice captured. The first time he was held a prisoner seven months, three months of the time being kept in irons on

board a ship, after which he was taken to the West Indies. The second time he was more kindly treated. Sometime after the Revolution he settled in White Creek, Washington county, New York, and there spent the remainder of his long life, passing away in 1840, in the eighty-first year of his age.

Mr. and Mrs. Luther M. Strong reared three children, namely: Milton, Sally and John H. Milton is a florist at Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He married Jessie Hotelling and they have two children, Milton and Mary. Sally married Charles B. Fink, of Kenton, and they have one son, Fred Fink. John H. Strong adopted agriculture as his vocation, and now operates a magnificent farm of two hundred and fifty acres, a part of which lies within the corporate limits of Kenton. He carries on general farming and stock-raising with much success, and, with his widowed mother, occupies the old homestead.

Theodore Schindewolf is worthy of special mention among the active and respected business men of Kenton, Hardin county, widely and favorably known as one of the leading furniture dealers and undertakers of this part of Ohio. A German by birth and breeding, he was born, September 14, 1840, in Helmarshausen, Kur Hessen, where his father, Ferdinand Schindewolf, spent his entire life. The latter was a hotel keeper by occupation, as a host being very popular with his patrons, and his death in about middle life was a cause of regret to the traveling public. He married Julia Rees, a life-long resident of Helmarshausen. She survived him many years, after his death conducting the hotel successfully and satisfactorily as long as she was able, when she relegated its management to her son George, who still owns and operates the house. She died in 1885, in her native town, leaving seven children, namely: Hermina, Eliza, Philip, William, Henry, Theodore and George. The sons, with the exception of George, emigrated to the United States and are numbered among the valued, law-abiding citizens.

Receiving excellent educational advantages in the Fatherland, Theodore Schindewolf attended school regularly until the Easter Sunday preceding the fourteenth anniversary of his birth, when he was confirmed. Ambitious then to come to America, he embarked on board a sailing vessel and after an ocean voyage of fifty-seven days landed in New York city. Starting immediately for Ohio, he came by way of the Hudson river to Albany, thence by rail to Kenton. This was in the time of the old state banks, and he soon found to his sorrow that of the small sum of seven dollars that constituted his entire capital five dollars were worthless. Nothing daunted, however, he soon apprenticed himself to a fellow countryman, Peter Dorn, with whom he served three years at the cabinet maker's trade, receiving for his labors in addition to his board twenty-five dollars the first year, fifty dollars the second and one hundred dollars the last year. Completing his apprenticeship, Mr. Schindewolf worked as a journeyman in Cincinnati three years, after which he was for a time in a steam mill and still house in Kenton. Enlisting in 1864 in Company G, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, for ninety days, he joined his regiment in Virginia,

and participated in the battles at Antietam, Shepherdsville, Maryland Heights and in others of less importance. Being honorably discharged in September, 1864, he returned to Kenton, and with two of his brothers bought the James White mill and distillery. Selling out his interest in two years, he removed to Ada, where he was engaged in the furniture and undertaking business until 1874, when he sold out, and the following eight months was engaged in the hardware business in Kenton. Disposing of his hardware stock Mr. Schindewolf bought the furniture and undertaking business of his former employer, Peter Dorn, and in company with Edward Sorgen carried on a good business until 1878. The partnership being then dissolved, Mr. Schindewolf opened his present establishment on Columbus street, and has here built up an extensive and lucrative business, having a fine stock of furniture of all kinds and all of the equipments of a modern, up-to-date undertaking establishment.

Mr. Schindewolf married, in 1864, Barbara Pfeiffer, who was born in Pleasant township, Hardin county, Ohio. Her father, John Pfeiffer, was born and reared in Henkelhoff, Germany. In 1835, accompanied by his family, he emigrated to Ohio, becoming a pioneer of Pleasant township, where he bought a tract of timbered land, on which he built from round logs the humble cabin in which Mrs. Schindewolf first opened her eyes to the light of this world. Mr. Pfeiffer was a man of strong mental and physical vigor, industrious and enterprising. He bought other land, in the course of time becoming the owner of six hundred acres, divided into different farms, all equipped with good buildings. He married Eve Elsesser, a native also of Henkelhoff, and of their nine children six grew to years of maturity, as follows: Lizzie, Barbara, Maggie, John, Louis, and Henry. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Schindewolf, namely: George, who died at the age of eighteen years; John, who was born in 1868, married Mary Ekerus, and died in 1902, leaving one child, Theodore; Minnie, wife of Hamilton Hoke, who has two children, Virginia and Marion; and Frank, who is associated in business with his father.

Religiously Mr. and Mrs. Schindewolf are members of the Evangelical church. Strongly opposed to slavery, Mr. Schindewolf joined the Republican party soon after attaining citizenship, and has ever been loyal to its principles. Being elected town treasurer in 1881, he served two terms, and was elected county treasurer in 1894 and re-elected to the same office in 1896, his popularity being shown when he ran far ahead of his ticket. Fraternally he belongs to Cantwell Post, No. 97, G. A. R., and to Latham Lodge, No. 154, F. & A. M.

John C. Bales, a well known business man of Kenton, Hardin county, is intimately associated with the growth of its mercantile and agricultural interests, being actively engaged in the provision business, and in addition owning and superintending the management of a fine farm. A son of Burel Bales he was born, July 10, 1863, in Kenton, coming from Virginian ancestry. His grandfather, George Bales, was born in Virginia, and there spent the earlier years of his life. Deciding to follow the march of civilization westward, he came to Ohio, journey-

ing a part of the way on the Ohio river and the remainder with teams. Locating in Hardin county, he followed his trade of a mechanic, being largely employed in making ox yokes. He died at the age of three score and ten years. The maiden name of his wife was Lucy Carter.

Born in Virginia, Burel Bales was but a youth when he came with his parents to Ohio. Until his marriage he was variously employed, and being industrious and economical accumulated a small sum of money. Settling then permanently in Kenton, he rented land near by, and was here a resident until his death, August 17, 1904. He married Catherine Tucker, who was born near Lafayette, Allen county, Ohio, April 9, 1836, and is now living in Kenton. Her father, Lemuel Tucker, was born in Virginia, and at an early age was left an orphan. Coming to Ohio, he lived first in Champaign county and then in Allen county. In 1848 he located in Hardin county, and for twelve years was a resident of Buck township. Moving then to Paulding county, he bought land and was there engaged in tilling the soil the remainder of his days. His wife, whose maiden name was Maria Walton, was born in Champaign county, Ohio, and died at the age of eighty-eight years in Paulding county. To Burel and Catherine (Tucker) Bales six children were born, including John C., David S., William E., and Isabelle S. Asher, second oldest, died when young and Jesse, the youngest, died in infancy.

Educated in the public schools of Kenton, John C. Bales began the battle of life for himself as a wage earner, working by the day or the month. On March 5, 1888, desirous of engaging in some special business, he formed a partnership with Henry Alt, and for three years dealt in provisions, having a good trade. Since the dissolution of the partnership in 1891 Mr. Bales has conducted the business alone, and in its management has met with eminent success. He has invested largely in land, and now owns and operates a valuable farm, in his agricultural ventures being equally as prosperous as in his mercantile dealings. He has for many years belonged to the Kenton fire deparement, being now its assistant chief.

William P. Bowman is prominent among the practical and progressive business men of Kenton and has for many years been identified with the varied interests of this part of Hardin county. He was born May 6, 1851, in Lancaster county Pennsylvania, a son of Joseph Bowman. His grandfather Bowman, a native of England, settled in Pennsylvania on emigrating to the United States, and during the remainder of his life was engaged in agricultural pursuits in Lancaster county. Born and brought up on the home farm in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, Joseph Bowman was for many years successfully engaged in mercantile pursuits in the city of Lancaster. He was influential in business and political circles, and was appointed deputy prothonotary of Lancaster county and served two terms, rendering such good service that he was afterwards twice elected to the office of prothonotary of that county. Removing to Licking county, Ohio, in 1860, he bought land and was engaged in general farming until 1892. Coming in that year to Forest, Hardin county, he lived retired until his death in 1898, at the venerable

age of eighty-seven years. His first wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Parker, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, of Scotch-Irish ancestry. She died in 1851, leaving six children, as follows: Amanda, Amos, Adaline, Samuel, Joseph and William P. Joseph Bowman married for his second wife Eliza J. Davis, a Philadelphia Quakeress. She died in 1902, having survived him four years.

Nine years of age when he came with his parents to Ohio, William P. Bowman remained at home until twenty years old. Going then to Illinois, he lived for a year in Champaign county with an older brother. Returning to Ohio, he was for three years employed as a clerk in a general store in Alexandria, afterwards being engaged in farming for several months. Locating in Sparta, Ohio, in 1876, he conducted a hardware business there for six years. Removing to Forest, Hardin county, in 1882, Mr. Bowman was there similarly engaged until 1898, having an extensive trade in hardware. Being then elected county treasurer, he took up his residence in Kenton. In 1900 he was re-elected to the same office, in which he served two terms of two years each. In 1905 he established a hardware store in Kenton, and managed it successfully until 1907, when he traded his stock for a farm, which he still owns, in Butler county. Mr. Bowman was one of the organizers of the Crystal Ice and Cold Storage Company, of which he has been a director since its incorporation, and of which he was manager during its first year of existence. He is one of the directors of the Kenton Telephone Company, and in 1908 assisted in installing the Automatic telephone system.

Mr. Bowman married, in 1872, Lizzie Hazelton, who was born near Alexandria, Ohio, a daughter of Solon and Louise (Beaumont) Hazelton. Mr. and Mrs. Bowman are both members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically Mr. Bowman is identified with the Republican party, and fraternally he is a member of Kenton Commandery, No. 58, K. T.

Delano M. Gage.—A man of push and vim, gifted with quick perceptions and an intelligent mind, Delano M. Gage has been identified with the industrial progress of Kenton for many years, and is now carrying on a substantial business as a member of the Robinson-Gage Lumber Company. A native of Ohio, he was born, August 10, 1864, in Findlay, Seneca county, coming from thrifty New England ancestry. His father, Philemon Gage, was born, reared and educated in Vermont, and there learned the saddler's trade. Coming as a young man to Ohio, he located in Findlay, then a small village in a sparsely settled country. He followed his trade there awhile, and upholstered the first passenger coach that ran on the Mad River railroad. During the exciting days of 1849 he joined a band of gold seekers and made an overland journey to California, where he was engaged in mining two years. Coming home then by way of the Isthmus he visited with his family six months, and then returned to the Pacific coast, and continued his labors with pick and shovel for another two years. Having accumulated quite a sum of money, he came back to his home in Findlay and was successfully

engaged in mercantile pursuits for a number of years. Subsequently assisting in the organization of the State Bank at Findlay, he was elected president of the institution, and devoted his time to its management until his death, when but sixty-one years old. He married Caroline Carlin, a daughter of Parlee Carlin, a pioneer of Findlay, who for many years operated a flour mill and a saw mill on the Blanchard river. She is now seventy-eight years of age, and is spending her time with her children, of whom she has four, namely: John L., Harriet, Delano M. and Catherine.

After completing the course of study in the public schools of Findlay Delano M. Gage still further advanced his education by attending the Ohio Northern University at Ada. Upon leaving school he entered the United States Railway Mail service, for three years being railway mail clerk in Montana. Coming then to Kenton Mr. Gage was here for three years engaged in the manufacture of chairs, afterwards being employed as bookkeeper for a time at the Straw Board Works. Starting then in the lumber business he continued operations alone for a while, and then organized the Robinson-Gage Lumber Company, which not only deals in lumber but manufactures hardwood lumber and wooden boxes, the business being already large and profitable.

In 1887 Mr. Gage married Anna Harris, who was born in Kenton, a daughter of George H. and Maggie Harris. Two daughters have been born of this union, Margaret and Caroline. Fraternally Mr. Gage is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; and of Aminta Lodge, No. 79, I. O. O. F. Religiously he and his family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church.

Wilson S. Cole, an able representative of the agricultural interests of Hardin county, is a model farmer in every sense implied by the term, and now owns and occupies one of the most valuable and beautiful country estates to be found in this part of the state, it being finely located in Buck township. He is a native born citizen his birth having occurred in March, 1842, in Goshen township, where his father, Henry Cole, was a pioneer settler. His grandfather, Cole, settled in Fairfield county, Ohio, at an early day, and did his full share of the pioneer labor of developing the neighborhood in which he lived.

Henry Cole was born and brought up in Fairfield county, and became a farmer from choice. Soon after his marriage he took up his residence in Goshen township, coming here when the land was in its primitive condition, and the dense forests were inhabited by bears, deer, wolves, and smaller animals that roamed at will, and often caused sad havoc in the new settlements. Kenton was then a small hamlet, composed entirely of log cabins. Buying a timbered tract in the northeastern part of the township, he cleared a space in which to erect a rude cabin from round logs. This he subsequently replaced by a more commodious residence built of hewed logs, riving the boards that covered the roof, holding them in place by weighted poles. For years thereafter there were no railways in the state, and the settlers had to go to Sandusky to procure salt and other articles equally necessary, an entire week

WILSON S. COLE AND FAMILY

being consumed in making the round trip. Much of the land which he bought was covered with black walnut timber, and in clearing it large trees were felled, and timber that would now be worth thousands of dollars was burned without a thought being given as to the future wealth it might represent. In 1854 he sold that property, and purchased one hundred and twenty acres in Washington township. About one-half of the land had been cleared, and a set of log buildings had been previously erected. Selling out a few years later, he removed to Cessna township, and there resided until death, when past eighty years of age. He married for his first wife Lucinda Kaughman, who was born in Pennsylvania, of German ancestry. She died in 1855, leaving four children, Wesley, Henry, Martha and Wilson S.

The rude building in which Wilson S. Cole gleaned his early education was built of logs, heated by a fireplace, while the seats were simply split logs with pins inserted for legs, and the desks on which the pupils learned to use the quill pen was a plank of puncheon placed against the wall. To reach this palace of learning he had to trudge a mile and a half each morning, following a trail marked by blazed trees. He lived with his father, assisting in clearing and improving the land, the greater part of the time until December, 1861, when he enlisted in Company A, Eighty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, the same company and same regiment in which he veteranized in 1864.

Mr. Cole was with his command in all of its marches, campaigns and battles, among the more important of which were the engagement at McDowell's, Second Bull Run, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Cedar Mountain, the Battle above the Clouds; was with Sherman in his campaign, taking part in all of the engagements enroute to Atlanta, and participated in the seige and capture of that city. He subsequently marched with the gallant hero to the sea, thence through the Carolinas, and by way of Richmond, Virginia, to Washington, where he took part in the Grand Review. Going then to Louisville, Kentucky, he remained there a brief time, and was from there sent to Columbus, Ohio, where he received his honorable discharge from the service.

Soon after returning to Hardin county, Mr. Cole bought forty acres of timbered land in Washington township, paying six hundred and fifty dollars for it. He cleared ten acres of it, set out an orchard, and then sold it for one thousand dollars. He afterwards bought another forty-acre tract in the same township, on which there were some improvements, several acres having been cleared, and a log house and stable having been erected. Mr. Cole built a frame house, and after living there eight years sold the place for two thousand and four hundred dollars. Moving then to Goshen township, Mr. Cole bought first one hundred and six acres of land, and later purchased fifty-three more acres. He farmed there successfully for nineteen years, when, having acquired a goodly share of this world's wealth, he rented his land, and lived retired from active business in Kenton. In 1906 Mr. Cole sold that estate and bought his present farm, which is advantageously located in Buck township, two and one-half miles from Kenton, assuming its possession in December, 1908. This farm, which he now occupies, contains one hundred and

fifty-eight acres of highly improved land, and has a commodious frame barn and a large brick house thoroughly modern in style and equipments and surrounded by ample grounds, on which there are many beautiful shade and ornamental trees, rendering it one of the most desirable country homes to be found in any community.

Mr. Cole married on September 22, 1870, Eliza Jane Sams, who was born in Brown county, Ohio, a daughter of Ellis Sams, of whom a brief sketch may be found elsewhere in this biographical work. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cole, namely: Emma, who died when one month old, Clara, Earl, Della and Nellie. Della, wife of George Fink, has one son, Paul Fink. Nellie married Jacob Luckhoff, and they have one daughter, Mildred Luckhoff, who lives in Dayton. Earl E. is now making his home in Kenton. Politically Mr. Cole is an earnest supporter of the principles of the Republican party. Fraternally he belongs to Cantwell Post No. 97, G. A. R. Religiously Mr. and Mrs. Cole and two of their daughters are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Thomas C. Mahon.—Conspicuous for his ability, integrity and worth, Thomas C. Mahon holds a position of note among the leading citizens of Kenton, where he is extensively engaged in the practice of law and identified with the higher interests of the city, at the present time being president of the board of education. A son of James Mahon, he was born, July 4, 1860, in Marseilles, Wyandot county, Ohio, of pioneer stock. His grandfather, Thomas Mahon, was a very early settler of Richland county, Ohio, where he resided many years. He afterwards engaged in mercantile pursuits, being first located in Scottown, from there going to Williamstown. He spent his last days in Dunkirk, Ohio, dying at the age of sixty-seven years.

One of a large family of children, James Mahon was born, May 25, 1833, in Richland county, Ohio, and as a youth began his mercantile career as a clerk in his father's store. Embarking in business for himself, he conducted a general store at Marseilles for a number of seasons. Removing from there to Dunkirk in 1862, he was for a long time successfully engaged in business as a merchant and manufacturer. He is now living practically retired, although he devotes a part of his leisure to the superintendence of his near-by farm. He married Phebe Waples, who was born in Fayette county, Ohio, a daughter of B. F. Waples, and into their household seven sons and one daughter were born, four being deceased, three sons and the daughter. The four living sons are Judson, Thomas C., Edward and Hoyt B.

During the days of his boyhood and youth Thomas C. Mahon attended the public schools and assisted his father in the store. He subsequently advanced his education by an attendance at the Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio, afterwards beginning the study of law in the office of Daugherty & Daugherty, completing his studies at the Cincinnati Law School. Opening a law office in Kenton in 1889, Mr. Mahon has since been actively and successfully engaged in the practice of his profession in this city, and has built up a large and lu-

crative clientage. He is a man of great enterprise and ability, and is connected with various organizations of a financial and fraternal nature. He is vice president of the Scioto Sign Company and a director in the Kenton National Bank. He is a member of Kenton Commandery, No. 58, K. T.; of Pythian Lodge, No. 164, K. of P.; and of Kenton Lodge, B. P. O. E. Politically he has always been a loyal supporter of the principles of the Democratic party, and has served acceptably in various official positions. In 1893 he was elected city attorney, and in 1896 was elected prosecuting attorney of Hardin county. In 1899 he was re-elected to the same responsible office, receiving a handsome majority of the votes cast, and served two terms of three years each. He is now, as above related, president of the city board of education, a position to which he was elected in 1907.

On April 14, 1885, Mr. Mahon was united in marriage with Maude Alexander, who was born in Dunkirk, Ohio, a daughter of J. B. and Charlotte (Smith) Alexander. Two sons have been born to them, namely: Paul T. and Frank B. The former was graduated from the Kenton high school with the class of 1907, and the latter with the class of 1909, and both are now students at the Ohio Wesleyan University, their father's alma mater. Mr. and Mrs. Mahon and their sons are members of the First Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mr. Mahon has been a steward for many years.

Elmer S. Protzman, M. D., by nature, temper and training singularly fitted for general medical practice, has met with marked success in his professional career, and is eminently worthy of the high position he holds among the leading physicians of Kenton. A son of the late Dr. Silas Protzman, he was born, March 28, 1872, in Fairfield, Ohio. The Doctor's grandfather, Captain John Protzman, was born in Maryland, and there obtained his early education. At the age of fourteen years, in 1805, he came to Ohio, and subsequently settled near Germantown, Montgomery county, where he followed milling and distilling, two industries then frequently combined. A patriotic citizen, he commanded a company of soldiers in the war of 1812. He died in 1861, aged three score and ten years. His wife, Margaret Shafer, a native of Pennsylvania, died in 1860.

One of a family of ten children, Dr. Silas Protzman was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, January 17, 1842. He obtained the rudiments of his education in the common schools of his district, and afterwards attended Holbrook's Normal School in Lebanon, Ohio. Enlisting in 1862 in Company F, One Hundred and Tenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, he was at the front in the battle of Winchester, and was present when the gallant Sheridan completed his memorable ride. He was afterwards assigned to the Army of the Potomac and took part in the engagements at Brandy Station on June 5, from August 1 to August 3, on September 6, and on November 8. After this he served in the Inspector General's office of the Third Division, Sixth Corps, which was everywhere known as the Old Fighting Corps of General Sedgwick. He was once with others taken prisoner, but his captors, fortunately, were

Germans. He spoke to them in their own language and they exchanged their well-worn uniforms for theirs and turned them loose. He quickly rejoined his command, with which he remained until receiving his honorable discharge from the service. Returning home, Silas Protzman began the study of medicine with his brother William, who was then practicing medicine at Yellow Springs, Ohio, but is now in Lincoln, Nebraska. Being graduated from the Cincinnati Medical College in 1869, Dr. Silas Protzman began the practice of medicine in Fairfield, Greene county, where he remained until 1872. Coming in that year to Kenton, he was here engaged in his professional labors until his death in 1885, at the comparatively early age of forty-three.

Dr. Silas Protzman married Henrietta Shuey, who was born near Eaton, Preble county, Ohio, a daughter of Adam Shuey, who was of early Holland ancestry. The family from which she sprung was known in Pennsylvania as early as 1732, and some of its members served in the Provincial Assembly at the time of the Revolutionary war. Her great-grandfather, John Shuey, Sr., and her grandfather, John Shuey, Jr., both lived in Pennsylvania, the former spending his entire life in that state. Adam Shuey lived for a time near Hagerstown, Maryland, moving from there to Preble county, Ohio, in pioneer days, when the country was a vast wilderness. He afterwards settled at Fairfield, Greene county, Ohio, where he improved a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he lived until after the death of his wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Neiswander. He afterwards made his home with his children, and died at the age of eighty-one years. He was a member of the Reformed church, and his wife belonged to the United Brethren church. After the death of her husband Mrs. Henrietta (Shuey) Protzman married for her second husband Charles W. Oldt and now resides at Lewistown, Pennsylvania.

The only child of his parents, Elmer S. Protzman attended first the public schools, after which he took a course of study at Wittenberg College in Springfield, Ohio, where he subsequently began the study of medicine with Alexander Dunlap, M. D. In 1895 he was graduated from the Medical College of Ohio in Cincinnati, with the degree of M. D., and the following year began the practice of his profession in Kenton, where he has since remained, having by skill and proved ability won the confidence and good will of the people and built up a large and lucrative patronage.

Dr. Protzman married, in 1898, Ida Marcella Watt, a daughter of James Watt, and granddaughter of Dr. Samuel Watt, an early physician of Kenton. Her great-grandfather, William Watt, born in Ireland of Scotch ancestry, emigrated to this country and lived for a time in Philadelphia. He came from there to Ohio at an early period of its settlement, and spent his last years in Cadiz. Samuel Watt was born in Cadiz, Harrison county, Ohio, in 1805, and when a young man there began the study of medicine with Dr. Wilson. He subsequently attended lectures at Jefferson Medical College in Washington, Pennsylvania, and began the practice of his profession in Jefferson county, Ohio, remaining there until 1839, when he settled in Kenton, where for many

years he had a large practice, remaining here until 1858. In 1848 and 1849 he represented Hardin county in the state legislature, and in 1858 was elected probate judge, and filled the office three consecutive terms. Removing to Ada in 1873, he lived there retired until his death, in October, 1876.

James Watt was born in Kenton, Ohio, December 6, 1839, and here acquired his elementary education. He was graduated from Westminster College, New Wilmington, Pennsylvania, with the class of 1865, and the following year was graduated from the Albany Law School in Albany, New York. He was subsequently actively engaged in the practice of law until 1882, when he was elected cashier of the Kenton Savings Bank, a responsible position which he filled acceptably several years. At the present time he is serving as deputy county clerk. He married Ida M. Chapman, a daughter of Harvey Chapman, of Hardin county.

Dr. and Mrs. Protzman have one child, a daughter named Caroline. Politically the Doctor has always been a stanch Republican, and has served three terms as county coroner and ten years as a member of the board of health. He is a member of the County, the State and the American Medical Societies, and takes great interest in each. Fraternally he is a member of Latham Lodge, No. 154, F. & A. M.; of Scioto Chapter, No. 119, R. A. M.; and of Kenton Lodge, No. 157, B. P. O. E.; and he also belongs to the Sons of the American Revolution. Mrs. Protzman belongs to the Daughters of the American Revolution, and is a member of the Presbyterian church.

Emanuel Lawson.—For a quarter of a century the late Emanuel Lawson was intimately associated with the development and growth of of the mercantile and financial prosperity of Kenton, his operations being extensive and exceedingly remunerative. He was a man of mark and of recognized worth as a citizen, his business ability being unquestioned and his character irreproachable. He was born, October 11, 1830, in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, a son of John Lawson, who was, as far as known, a native of the Keystone state. Accompanied by his wife and children John Lawson came to Ohio about 1835, and for a number of years followed his chosen occupation of a farmer in Richland county. He subsequently moved to Defiance county, and there spent the remainder of his life.

A small boy when he came with his parents to Ohio, Emanuel Lawson profited by the meagre facilities that were afforded him in his youth to obtain an education, attending regularly the short terms of the district school. When a young man he began his independent career as an employe of the Big Four Railroad Company, being ticket agent at Shelby. He afterwards established a well-paying business as a dealer in hay and grain. In 1878 Mr. Lawson located in Kenton, and here built up an extensive business along the same line of industry, buying and shipping grain in large quantities, in his tranсactions reaping a good annual income. He became identified with financial organizations, being made a director in two banking institutions. Here

he resided, an esteemed and respected citizen, until his death, July 10, 1903.

Mr. Lawson married Arah E. Nagle, who survives him. She is a daughter of Henry Nagle. Her grandfather, Frederick Nagle, was without doubt a life-long resident of Pennsylvania. Until fifteen years of age Henry Nagle resided in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, where he was born and educated. He then came to Ohio, joining an elder brother in Clark county. After attaining his majority he established himself in business as a merchant at West Liberty, Logan county, from there coming to Hardin county and locating at Roundhead, where he opened one of the very first stores, putting in a stock of general merchandise. He used to trade for cattle, and also bought stock, which he would drive to the eastern markets, making the trips on horseback, that being before the days of railroads with their palace stock cars. All of his merchandise was brought to Hardin county by canal and teams. He was very successful as a merchant, accumulating considerable wealth, and spent his last years retired from business activities in Kenton, passing away in the seventy-ninth year of his age. The maiden name of the wife of Henry Nagle was Asenath Crockett. She was born in Kentucky, and belonged to the family from which David Crockett, the noted frontiersman, sprung. She died at the age of seventy-five years. To her and her husband twelve children were born.

Politically Mr. Lawson was a sound Democrat. Religiously he was a member, with his wife, of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he was an active worker, and for many years was the secretary of its Sunday school.

William H. Lawrence.—A man of sterling integrity and worth, William H. Lawrence holds a position of note among the honored and highly esteemed citizens of Kenton, where he is now living, retired from active pursuits. A native of Logan county, Ohio, he was born, December 21, 1848, at Bellefontaine, a son of Hon. William Lawrence, who in the three fold capacity of lawyer, soldier and statesman achieved eminence and honor, becoming one of the best known men of his day. He is of English descent, his lineage having been traced back to Sir Robert Lawrence, upon whom Richard, Coeur de Lion, bestowed a coat-of-arms for his distinguished services in planting the banner of the Crusaders on the walls of Saint Jean D'Acre in 1191. Among his ancestors of a later generation were Robert Lawrence, of Ashley Hall, Lancashire, England, and one James Lawrence, who married Matilda Washington, a member of the same family that produced George Washington.

Joseph Lawrence, Mr. Lawrence's grandfather, was born, December 21, 1793, at Byberry, Friends' Meeting House, which is now included within the corporate limits of the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He served as a soldier in Captain Beneget's company during the war of 1812. Migrating to Ohio in 1816, and married at Mount Pleasant, Temperance Gilchrist, who was born in Berkeley county, Virginia, August 6, 1792. Locating in 1830 on a farm in Jefferson county, Ohio, he

lived there a number of years. Subsequently buying farm lands in Hardin county, he took up his residence at Bellefontaine, and there lived until his death, in the meantime superintending the care of his farm.

William Lawrence was born, June 20, 1819, at Mount Pleasant, Ohio. An intelligent, studious lad, with scholarly ambitions, he attended every session of the district school, assisting in the farm labors during the long summer vacations. He acquired a good knowledge of surveying when young, and before entering his "teens" wrote a book entitled "A solution of Gummer's Surveying." In 1833 he attended Rev. John Tidball's Academy in Knoxville, and in 1838 was graduated from Franklin College in Athens, with the degree of A. B., and as valedictorian of his class. In the meantime he had assisted on the home farm a part of each year and had taught in the district school. He subsequently studied medicine, natural philosophy and chemistry, acquiring a knowledge that became useful to him in later years. In 1838 he began the study of law at McConnelsville, and in March, 1840, was graduated from the Cincinnati Law School with the degree of LL. B., and was at once admitted to practice in the supreme court of the state at Zanesville. In 1840 and 1841 William Lawrence was reported for the House of Representatives of Ohio, and was correspondent for several newspapers. Locating at Bellefontaine in 1841, he began the practice of his profession, and soon took rank among the leading attorneys of the state, his name subsequently appearing in the records of the supreme courts of Ohio, Kansas and the United States. By authority of Attorney General Williams he was the leading counsel for the United States in the case of the Goverment versus the L. L. and G. Railroad, whereby a tract of nine hundred and sixty thousand acres of land was reclaimed by the United States and opened for settlers. In 1842 William Lawrence was appointed commissioner of bankruptcy for Logan county, and in 1845-6 was prosecuting attorney for the same county. In 1847 he represented his district in the state legislature, and was elected state senator in 1849 and re-elected to the same high position in 1854. In 1852 he was candidate for elector on the Whig ticket.

In 1862 William Lawrence, now entitled to the term "Honorable," enlisted for three months service in the Civil war, and was made colonel of the Eighty-fourth Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry. One month of the time he served as president of the court martial, before which many important cases were tried. In 1863 he was appointed by President Lincoln as district judge of Florida, but declined the honor. In 1864 he was elected to congress, and was subsequently re-elected, serving with the exception of one term until 1877. In congress he was the author of several bills that became laws and championed many others. He was in full sympathy with the Republican party, and was the author of the bill giving each Union soldier one hundred and sixty acres of government land, and was one of the first in congress to urge that Indian lands should no longer be disposed of by railway companies but reserved for homesteaders. He likewise introduced the bill in congress to make the office of attorney general an executive department. In 1877 he was chosen by the Republicans of the House to argue the

case of four contested states before the Electoral Commission, and his portrait appears in the painting entitled "Electoral Commission," which was purchased by congress and now adorns the walls of the Capitol.

Hon. William Lawrence delivered several notable addresses on the subject of wool protection, one of the, entitled "The Protection of Wool from the Standpoint of the Grower," was printed by the "Home Market Club" of Boston, and was widely circulated by its members. He was appointed by Governor Foraker as a delegate to the Farmer's Congress of the United States, held at Chicago in 1887, and the address which he there delivered on the wool industry was published and distributed as a campaign document by the Republican National Committee. He was a zealous member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and was a delegate from the Central Ohio Conference to the General Conference in the years 1872-76-80 and 1892. In 1871 he organized the Bellefontaine National Bank, of which he was the principal stockholder, and served as its president during its earlier years of existence. He was an enthusiastic farmer and stock raiser, and owned farms in Buck, Taylor Creek and Lynn townships, Hardin county, and carried on general agriculture with success. He died May 8, 1899, his death being a public loss to the community in which he resided, to the county and to the state.

Hon. William Lawrence married, December 20, 1843, Cornelia Hawkins, a daughter of Hon. William Hawkins. She died February 29, 1844. He married on March 2, 1845, Caroline M. Miller, who was born January 20, 1828, in Port Republic, Rockingham county, Virginia, a daughter of Henry Miller, who was born in Virginia, of German ancestors, and moved from there to Ohio, becoming a pioneer settler of Bellefontaine, where he was for many years successfully engaged in mercantile pursuits, conducting a general store. She was a woman of culture, receiving her education at the Presbyterian Female Seminary in Granville, Ohio. Three sons and three daughters blessed their union, namely: Joseph H., William H., John M., Cornelia, Frances C. and Mary Temperance.

Acquiring his rudimentary education in the public schools of Bellefontaine, William H. Lawrence completed his studies at the Swedenborgian College at Urbana, Ohio. Turning then his attention to agricultural pursuits, for which he had a natural love and taste, he was for thirty years industriously and prosperously engaged in farming and stock-raising in Lynn township. Removing to Kenton in 1900, he has since resided here retired from active business cares.

Mr. Lawrence married, February 5, 1878, Agnes Gunn, who was born in Lynn township, Hardin county, November 23, 1854, a daughter of John Gunn, Jr., coming from Scotch ancestry. Her grandfather, John Gunn, Sr., was born in Scotland in 1770, and as a young man joined the English army, with which in 1800 he came across the Atlantic to Canada. After leaving the army he continued his residence for a time in Canada, living first in Montreal, then in Malden, and afterward in Wapakoneta where he was an Indian trader. Coming to Ohio in 1808, he located at McKee Creek, Logan county. The country roundabout was then in its pristine wildness, deer, bear, wolves, panthers, turkeys

R. L. Millard

and wild game of all kinds being plentiful, while the Indians were numerous and sometimes quite troublesome. He became a tavern keeper, and during the war of 1812 rendered valuable service to the United States commissary department, and for these services his widow was subsequently awarded one hundred and sixty acres of government land. He died in 1842, and his widow passed away in 1864. They reared three sons, namely: John, Jr., Walter D. and Robert. John Gunn, Jr., was born, October 24, 1814, in Logan county, Ohio, and was brought up on a farm, and in 1842 located on land in Lynn township. Making the most of his opportunities, he acquired a practical education, becoming a surveyor of note. He purchased land at different times, becoming owner of upwards of a thousand acres. He was a man of enterprise and public spirit, among the foremost in promoting improvements, assisting in the establishment of schools and churches, and was a strong advocate of good roads. He died July 22, 1876. He married, in 1844, Emily Garrett, a daughter of Tirey Garrett, of whom a sketch may be found on another page of this volume. She died January 16, 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence are the parents of three children, namely: John M., who married Mabel Ewing and has one child, Joseph H.; J. William; and Frances A.

Robert L. Miller.—In the front rank of the class of men who have been actively associated with the financial movements of various parts of the Union is Robert L. Miller, of Kenton, a man of superior business talent, judgment and tact. In his judicious operations he has accumulated much wealth, and is now living retired from business cares in Buck township, Hardin county, occupying his magnificent country seat, a farm of one hundred acres. A son of William Miller, he was born, October 15, 1853, at Catasauqua, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania.

A native of Ireland, William Miller was born in Coleraine, County Londonderry, and when a small child was left an orphan. When nine years old he came to the United States to make his home with a maternal uncle, a Mr. Leslie, living in Mauch Chunk, Pennsylvania, and there he grew to manhood, receiving in the meantime excellent educational advantages. Endowed with natural ability, he embarked in early manhood in mercantile pursuits, but in common with those of much greater experience suffered severe losses during the panic of 1857. He subsequently became a railroad builder, and took contracts to build several hundred miles of the Union Pacific Railroad, both on the plains and in the mountains. He subsequently purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land in Benton county, Iowa, and superintended its management, living in the meantime in Vinton, the county seat, until his death, December 17, 1872. He married Mary McKee, who was born in Dutchess county, New York, where her father, Thomas McKee, who emigrated from Ireland to this country when young, was for many years an Indian trader. She died December 8, 1881, leaving three children, namely: Robert L.; Mrs. Belle Parker, of Los Angeles, California; and Bertha. Bertha married George Scoville, and died in Iowa, leaving two children. Both parents were members of the Presbyterian church.

Robert L. Miller went west with his father, and at Ogden, Utah, on May 10, 1869, witnessed the driving of the golden spike into the last tie that united the Central Pacific and the Union Pacific railways. Coming to Kenton in 1873, he clerked in a bank a year, and then made a trip abroad, visiting many of the larger cities of Europe. Returning to Kenton, Mr. Miller was for a number of years extensively engaged in banking and real estate business. In 1885 he was appointed chief of loans and currency division of the treasury department at Washington, D. C., where he remained four years. Going from there to Saint Paul, Minnesota, Mr. Miller was there engaged in banking several years, and afterwards operated successfully in stocks in Chicago, his home in the meantime being in that beautiful suburb of the city, Evanston. Leaving there he resided in Toledo, Ohio, until 1907, when he assumed possession of the farm which he purchased in 1895, it being beautifully located three miles south of the Kenton courthouse.

Mr. Miller has been twice married. He married first, when in his twenty-first year, Achsa Stevens, who was born in Kenton, a daughter of Julius and Anne (Burnham) Stevens. She died in 1905. Mr. Miller married second in 1906, Mrs. Mary J. (Smith) Stubbs. She was born in Warren county, Ohio, a daughter of Thomas and Eleanor (Bowyer) Smith, who are still living on their home farm in that county. Her first husband, Horace Stubbs, a life long resident of Warren county, died at a comparatively early age, leaving one son, George Wilbur Stubbs. Mr. Miller has an adopted daughter, Mary, to whom he is devoting as much care and attention as though she were in reality his own child.

In his political views Mr. Miller was identified with the Democratic party until 1906, when he became a stanch advocate of sound money and has since voted the Republican ticket. Religiously Mr. and Mrs. Miller are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Fraternally he belongs to the Wolf Creek Grange, and takes great interest in promoting the welfare of the organization, believing it can be made an instrument of much good to its members. Although Mr. Miller has ever been a busy man, he has been a constant reader, keeping himself well informed on the topics of the day, and in consequence has been uniformly successful in his undertakings, even in his battles with the stock market. Mr. Miller's country home is one of the finest in Hardin county and the admiration of city people, who envy him its possession. The commodious frame house, built in modern style and containing all of the up-to-date improvements for heating and illuminating, stands in the midst of a spacious lawn, which is ornamented with a great variety of trees and shrubs, the estate being an ornament to the community and one in which he and his fellow townsmen may take a just pride.

George W. Overly.—Standing high among the industrious and business-like farmers who are so successfully conducting the agricultural interests of Hardin county is George W. Overly, of Buck township, who represents the younger generation of the Ohio husbandmen. He was born, January 16, 1867, in Wabash county, Indiana, which was also the

birthplace of his father, Samuel W. Overly. His grandfather, Daniel Overly, a native of Pennsylvania, born of German ancestors, became a pioneer settler of Wabash county, Indiana. Entering a tract of timbered land from the government, he redeemed a good farm from the forest and while establishing a home for himself and family contributing his full share toward the growth and development of that part of the state. There he and his wife spent their remaining years. Daniel Overly was eighty-six years of age at the time of his death.

Developing into manhood on the Indiana homestead, Samuel W. Overly assisted his father in the strenuous labor of clearing the land, and was engaged in farming in that locality until 1873. Migrating then to Pettis county, Missouri, he located fifteen miles south of Sedalia, and there continued his chosen occupation three years. Coming then to Ohio, he spent a year in Champaign county, after which he rented a farm three miles west of Kenton, in Hardin county, where he lived a number of years. Coming then to Buck township, he was here employed in tilling the soil until 1908, when he took up his residence in Ridgeway, where he now lives, retired from active pursuits. He married Eveline Ash, who was born in Indiana, and was there bred and educated. She died in 1894, leaving eight children, namely: George W., Elda, Charles T., Elinor, Stella, John, Edith and Ada.

Ten years old when he came with his parents to Hardin county, George W. Overly received a practical education in the district schools, while at home he was well trained in agricultural arts. In early manhood he began his agricultural career on rented land and met with very encouraging success from the start. In 1897 Mr. Overly purchased his present farm in Buck township, and is here carrying on general farming with satisfactory results, displaying excellent judgment in his operations.

Mr. Overly married, in 1892, Iva M. Scott, who was born in Ohio, a daughter of William Scott, a Hardin county farmer. Three children have been born of their union, namely: Ethel Mary, Lloyd E. and Leota May. Mr. Overly belongs to Wolf Creek Grange and to Scioto Camp, M. W. A.

Samuel A. McCullough, one of the most enterprising, useful and prosperous citizens of Hardin county, conducts a fine farm of four hundred acres on Mt. Victory pike, Buck township, two and a half miles from the courthouse. He purchased the modern place he now occupies in 1907 and is therefore a new settler. Mr. McCullough's long and noteworthy career as an educator and a broad-gauge farmer was made chiefly in Fairfield and Van Wert counties, Ohio, the grandfather, William, having established the family in the former county in 1806. The ancestor named came from Ireland, which was his native country. As his parents crossed over into Scotland when he was very young he made his home with an uncle; but it is supposed that both his father and mother perished of the plague which was raging at that time. At all events, all tidings of them were lost, and at the age of nineteen the youth crossed the ocean to America, first residing in Pennsylvania. In 1806 he took up land in Fairfield county, Ohio, where he died at the age of

ninety-seven. William, his son (father of Samuel A.), was born in that county, and when he had reached manhood moved across the line into Perry county, where he purchased a quarter section for seven hundred dollars. Coal was discovered on his land, but as he did not wish to work the deposits he sold the one hundred and sixty acres four years after their purchase for five thousand dollars. He then returned to Fairfield county, where he died at the age of seventy-five years. William McCullough married Miss Elizabeth Nixon, born in Virginia, daughter of John and Rebecca (Holt) Nixon, both born in England. The father came to Virginia in his early boyhood and one of his sons, George, served in the Revolutionary war. The Nixons generally remained in the south and its male representatives served in the Confederate army; the McCulloughs were distributed in various sections of the country, some being soldiers of the Union and others of the southern army. Twelve children were born to William and Elizabeth (Nixon) McCullough, of whom nine reached maturity and Samuel A. was the fourth.

Samuel A. McCullough was born in Perry county, Ohio, March 27, 1847, being eight years of age when his parents moved to Fairfield county. Although his education was confined to his training in the district school he so proved his adaptability to teaching that for twenty-nine years he continued his educational work during the winter terms, giving his summers to farming. Then for two years he gave his entire time to teaching at Bloomfield, Iowa, but in 1892 located on a farm in Hoglin township, Van Wert county, and since that year has made agriculture the main purpose of his life work. For several years of his early residence in that county he was identified with the Gilliland and Little farms, after which he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Tully township, and for nearly twenty years made a specialty of harvesting hay, his season's product ranging from one hundred and fifty to two hundred tons. He also raised various grains and live stock; so that "Grand View" farm became noted as much for its varied productiveness as for its elevated and beautiful location. Mr. McCullough purchased the land, in 1898, at thirty-seven dollars and fifty cents an acre, and sold it in 1906 at one hundred and twenty-five dollars an acre—a somewhat remarkable advance in price caused by the fine improvements which the proprietor had put upon the place, by the general rise in the desirable lands of the locality, and the improvement made by the Lima and Fort Wayne Electric Railroad. As stated, in 1907 Mr. McCullough located on the fine homestead he now occupies in Buck township.

In 1874 Mr. McCullough married Miss Anna Jane Wright, who was born in Fairfield county, daughter of William and Betsy (Hansacker) Wright. Her father, an extensive livestock dealer, is also a native of Fairfield county. Her maternal grandfather, Jacob Hansacker, was a native of Virginia, was captured by Indians when a boy and held for twenty-five years; so that when recovered by his relatives he was, in appearance and nature, an Indian himself. His daughter, the mother of Mrs. McCullough, migrated from Virginia to Fairfield county. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Samuel A. McCullough—Isaac W., Kate, Benjamin F. and William A. The son last named is follow-

ing in his father's footsteps as a teacher, his efficient work having been conducted both in Van Wert and Hardin counties. He is now teaching in Dudley township. Mr. McCullough's preparation for his profession has been of the most thorough nature. He first exhausted the facilities of the district school, then completed a course at the Conroy high school, and has been a faithful student at the Lima College and the Northern Ohio University at Ada.

William L. Garrett.—Noteworthy among the active and valued citizens of Hardin county is William L. Garrett, a well-known farmer whose home is pleasantly located on Mt. Victory pike, two miles south of the city of Kenton. A son of Tiry Garrett, he was born, January 1, 1844, in Pleasant township, this county. His grandfather, William Garrett, a Virginian by birth and breeding, was a pioneer settler of Highland county, Ohio. Taking up a tract of wild land, he cleared a homestead and there resided until his death in 1825, when but fifty-two years of age. His body was buried in the old Pope cemetery near Centerfield. One of a family of fourteen children, Tiry Garrett was born in Virginia on the 4th of April, 1802, and there acquired his early knowledge of books. Coming with the family to Ohio, he first assisted his father, but after his marriage moved to Wyandot county, where he was a pioneer farmer. Coming from there to Hardin county in 1841, he bought a tract of timbered land that is now owned by the county, it being the present site of the Hardin County Infirmary. The small cabin which he built of round logs had a riveted board roof, a split puncheon floor, an earth and stick chimney, with a huge fireplace, before which his young wife did all of her cooking. Wild beasts of all kinds roamed through the forests, and Sandusky, many miles away, was the nearest milling and marketing point. Devoting his time to clearing and improving a farm, he resided there, an active and industrious farmer, the remainder of his life, passing away August 31, 1845.

Tiry Garrett was twice married. He married first Eliza White, who died in Sandusky, Ohio, February 27, 1833, just eight years after their marriage, which was celebrated in February, 1825. By this union two children were born, Emily and Rebecca. He married for his second wife Mahala Nessel, who was born in Pike county, Ohio, where her father, George Nessel, was a pioneer settler. He was born in Germany and came to Ohio with his parents at the age of three years. He married Priscilla Pearl, and both he and his wife spent their closing years on their homestead in Ross county, and were buried in the family lot on their home farm. Mrs. Mahala (Nessel) Garrett survived her first husband, and married James Keith. She died in 1893, aged seventy-seven years. Of her union with Tiry Garrett five children were born: Mary Ann, who died in infancy; George H., who was killed in the Civil war; Charles C., living at Ada, Ohio; our subject, William L.; and Blona, who died in infancy. By her marriage with Mr. Keith she had four children, Silas, Sarah M., Laura and John.

Receiving his elementary education in the typical pioneer log schoolhouse, William L. Garrett was initiated into the mysteries of agriculture

when young, and at the age of thirteen years became self-supporting, finding employment on a farm, and receiving as wages two dollars a month. As his services grew in value, his wages were increased, finally reaching the sum of twenty dollars a month. Going to the territory of Kansas in 1858, Mr. Garrett located in Wyandot county, near Kansas City, where the settlers were few in number and border troubles were rife. He remained there, working as a farm hand, until 1861. At that time the stars and stripes and the Confederate flags were both flying at conspicuous points.

Returning by boat to his home in May, 1861, Mr. Garrett was busily employed until the following September, when he enlisted in Company G, Thirty-third Ohio Veteran Volunteer Infantry, with which he went south, his regiment being attached to the Fourteenth Army Corps, commanded by General Thomas. He was with the corps in its marches, campaigns and battles, among the more important engagements having been those at Perryville, Stone River, Hoover's Gap, Chickamauga, the battle above the clouds, at Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, and was with Sherman in the Atlanta campaign, participating in the battles en route and in the siege and capture of the city. He subsequently continued with his gallant commander to the sea, thence through the Carolinas and Virginia to Washington, where he took part in the Grand Review. Receiving his honorable discharge July 9, 1865, Mr. Garrett returned to Hardin county, and resumed farming. At the time of his marriage he bought a partly improved farm in McDonald township, resided there four years and then sold out. Purchasing then a timber tract in Taylor Creek township, he built a house and barn, placed the land in a high state of cultivation, and made many improvements of value during the thirty years that he occupied it. He then sold and bought his present attractive home on Mt. Victory pike.

Mr. Garrett married, in 1868, Sarah Jeffers, who was born in Logan county, Ohio, a daughter of John and Catherine Jeffers. She died July 31, 1908. Politically a Democrat, Mr. Garrett served one term as justice of the peace. Fraternally he is a member of W. W. Simpson Post, G. A. R., of Belle Center.

John Gerlach.—The representative of one of the early pioneer families of Hardin county, a brave soldier in the Civil war, and an esteemed and respected resident of Kenton, John Gerlach is one of the oldest native born citizens of this place, his birth having occurred here August 1, 1840. He comes of German ancestry, his father, Ulrich Gerlach, having been born at Elm Kreis, Hesse-Cassel, Germany, January 21, 1812. Three of his brothers, John, Christopher and Gottfried, emigrated when young to America, while his older brother, Adam, inherited the family estate and remained in the Fatherland. John settled at Pickaway, Miami county, Ohio, and the other two located in Pleasant township, Hardin county.

When a young lad Ulrich Gerlach began learning the trade of a harness and saddle maker, and after completing his apprenticeship traveled, as was then the custom, working for brief periods in different

localities, in each place securing a certificate for skillful workmanship and good character. About 1834 he started for America, being sixty days in crossing the ocean on a sailing vessel. He landed in Baltimore, a stranger in a foreign land, his only capital being good health, willing hands and a large supply of courage and ambition. Starting on foot for the west, he made his way to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, stopping occasionally on the route to work at his trade. He resided for awhile in Pittsburg, and then pushed on to Mansfield, Ohio. In 1837 he visited Kenton for a few days, and then went back to Mansfield. In 1838 he returned to Kenton, which at that time was but a small village and the surrounding country a pathless wilderness, which has since given way before the axe of the pioneer, developing into thriving villages, populous towns and productive agricultural communities, the Indian trails of those days being now well graded public highways. Ulrich Gerlach bought a tract of land in a block on North Main street, including a space now included in four city lots, and there established the first harness shop in Hardin county. He traded a harness for one half of this land, and for the other half paid thirty-four dollars in cash. He subsequently sold the whole tract for five thousand dollars, and then purchased a farm east of Kenton, but did not at once move onto it. He continued in business in Kenton for awhile longer, being first located at the east corner of the block north of the courthouse, and later east of the square. Removing to his farm about 1867, he resided there until his death, in the eighty-fourth year of his age. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Pfeiffer, was born in Hesse-Cassel, Germany, a daughter of John and Elizabeth Pfeiffer, pioneers of Hardin county. She died at the age of seventy-eight years, leaving six children, John, George, Adam, Christopher, William and Elizabeth.

Beginning as a boy to learn the trade of a harness maker, John Gerlach has followed it during his entire life. Enlisting in May, 1864, in Company G, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, he went with his command to Virginia, and served with his regiment until the expiration of his term, when he was honorably discharged and returned home.

Mr. Gerlach married, in 1862, Mary Jane Balch, who was born in Madison, Ohio, September 25, 1843, a daughter of Israel Balch, a native of Boston, Massachusetts. As a youth Israel Balch followed the sea, but in early manhood came to Ohio, locating in pioneer days in Madison where he spent his remaining years. He married Sarah S. McDonald, who was born in Ross county, Ohio, a daughter of William and Millie (Riley) McDonald. Millie Riley was born in Essex county, Maryland, in 1791, of patriotic ancestry, her mother having carried messages for the Continental soldiers during the Revolutionary war. Millie's first husband, Mr. McDonald, died young, and she subsequently married a Mr. Roby. She came to Ohio in 1804, and died in Kenton September 29, 1864.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerlach are the parents of eight children, namely: Anna, Mary E., Eva, Sabina, Sadie, Ida, Flo and Alfred McDonald. Religiously Mr. Gerlach is a member of the Evangelical church. Fra

ternally he belongs to Cantwell Post, No. 97, G. A. R., and to Amintia Lodge, No. 79, I. O. O. F.

Judge Willis W. Bowers, who was elected probate judge of Hardin county in 1908, enjoys the reputation of being one of the best county judges in this section of Ohio. He is accounted a wise and impartial dispenser of justice and has the distinction of being the youngest man ever elected to the office of probate judge in Hardin county. He was born, February 22, 1874, in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, a son of George D. Bowers. George D. Bowers spent the early part of his life in the Keystone state, but is now a resident of Missouri. He married Caroline Hertzog, daughter of Andrew and Susan Hertzog of Pennsylvania. She died in 1890, leaving but one child, Willis W., the subject of this sketch.

But fourteen years old when his mother died, Willis W. Bowers was subsequently brought up by his paternal grandparents, Joseph and Julia Bowers. He received good educational advantages, attending first the public schools, then the State Normal School at California, Pennsylvania, and Hiram College in Portage county, Ohio. Coming to Hardin county in 1895, Mr. Bowers embarked in the onion industry, beginning as a grower and subsequently becoming a buyer and shipper, in the latter industry carrying on an extensive trade, one year shipping three hundred cars. A stanch Democrat in politics, he was his party's candidate for probate judge in 1908, and had the honor of being elected in a district that is decidedly Republican.

Judge W. W. Bowers married, July 8, 1896, B. Hazel Hogan, a daughter of John and Sarah Hogan, then residents of Hardin county, but now living at Redford, Michigan. Three children have been born of their union, namely: John F., Oliver C. and George J. Fraternally the Judge stands high in the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the Blue Lodge, the Chapter, the Council and the Commandery. He is also a member of Kenton Lodge, No. 157, B. P. O. E.; also a member of Kenton Council No. 344, of the United Commercial Travelers, and is one of the charter members of Scioto Camp No. 4101, of the Modern Woodmen of America, which is the oldest camp of the Modern Woodmen in Hardin county. Religiously he belongs to the Church of Christ, of which he and his family are regular attendants.

Charles Augustus Stevenson.—A skillful and progressive farmer, thoroughly conversant with the occupation in which he is engaged, Charles Augustus Stevenson materially assists in maintaining the reputation of Hardin county as a superior agricultural region, his well managed and fertile farm being located in Buck township. He was born, January 5, 1853, in Orleans county, New York, a son of Silas Stevenson and grandson of James Stevenson. A native of Virginia, James Stevenson emigrated to Ohio about 1820, becoming a pioneer settler of Champaign county, where he resided seven years. In 1827 he traveled northward, locating on the line of Logan and Hardin counties, where he carried on farming until 1834. Removing then to Taylor

WILLIS W. BOWERS

Creek township, Hardin county, he bought wild land, and from the wilderness hewed a homestead, on which he resided until his death, June 6, 1865. He married Unity New, who was born in Virginia, and died in Taylor Creek township March 10, 1864. They were the parents of twelve children, as follows: Silas, father of Charles Augustus; Robert; Lace; Jane; Harriet; William; John; Ephraim; Margaret; Charles A., of whom a sketch may be found on another page of this volume; David H.; and Louisa.

Silas Stevenson was born in October, 1822, in Champaign county, Ohio, and was reared among pioneer scenes. In his boyhood days deer, wolves, bears and other beasts of the forest were plentiful, often terrorizing the scattering settlers. The nearest mill was many miles distant, and there were no convenient markets, the people subsisting largely on the productions of the soil. When a young man he went to New York state, married, and lived there about four years. Returning to Hardin county, he purchased a tract of wild land in 1853, in Buck township, built a log house, and immediately began the herculean task of redeeming a farm from the wilderness. Huge trees were felled, the logs were rolled into piles and burned, thousands of dollars worth of what would now be good lumber being thus ruthlessly destroyed. Little did the good people of those times dream that in less than a century the conservation of forests would become a question of national importance. Silas Stevenson soon had a part of his land in a yielding condition, and had added to his homestead excellent improvements, having erected a brick house, a frame barn, and other necessary buildings. On this valuable estate he spent the remainder of his life, enjoying all the comforts of a modern home, his death occurring on his home farm in July, 1900. He married Ruby Tyler, who was born in Orleans county, New York, October 27, 1827, and died on the home farm in March, 1908. She was a daughter of John H. and Salina Tyler, esteemed residents of Orleans county. Of the union of Silas and Ruby Stevenson nine children were born, namely: Hazen J., Charles A., Salina, Horace, William, Laura, John, Margaret and Frank.

Early becoming acquainted with the various branches of agriculture Charles A. Stevenson has followed farming throughout his entire life, with the exception of a few months spent in Lynn township, having resided in Buck township since coming here, an infant, in his mother's arms. In 1902 he settled on the Pike, taking possession of the farm he now owns and occupies. It contains one hundred and thirty acres of rich and fertile land, well adapted to the raising of all the cereals common to this region, and is well improved in regard to both buildings and cultivation.

In 1875 Mr. Stevenson was united in marriage with Arrie Newcomb, who was born in Knox county, Ohio, in 1852, a daughter of Clark Lewis Newcomb, and granddaughter of Cromwell and Esther (Lewis) Newcomb. From a history published by John Bearse Newcomb, of Elgin, Illinois, a handsome volume of six hundred pages, the history of the Newcomb family of America is given from 1635 to 1874. It shows that Clark Lewis Newcomb was a descendant in the eighth generation from

the emigrant ancestor, Captain Andrew Newcomb, a native of England, the line of descent being as follows: Captain Andrew, Andrew, Simon, Hezekiah, James, James, Cromwell and Clark Lewis. Cromwell Newcomb was born at Stephentown, Rensselaer county, New York, May 6, 1790. Coming as a pioneer to Ohio in 1833, he settled first in Knox county. From there he came in 1852 to Hardin county, and on the farm that he bought in Pleasant township lived his remaining days, passing away September 10, 1871. His wife died August 11, 1872. Clark Lewis Newcomb, born in Livingston county, New York, August 8, 1824, was young when he came with his parents to Ohio. Reared to agricultural pursuits, he spent his comparatively brief life as a farmer, dying in Pleasant township in 1858. His wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Finerty, was born in Knox county, Ohio, where her father, Samuel Finerty, was a pioneer settler. She died in 1890, leaving two children by her first marriage, Arrie, now Mrs. Stevenson; and Rosa. Sarah Finerty's second marriage was to Mr. T. J. Smith and to this union there were three daughters: May, the wife of Jacob Stair; Jessie, who makes her home now with Mrs. Stevenson; and Elizabeth, wife of Samuel Kumly. Mr. Stevenson is a Republican in politics, and both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Clement L. Howey is one of the highly esteemed and successful citizens of Pleasant township, Hardin county, Ohio, and a practical and progressive farmer. He was born in the county, in Blanchard township, August 3, 1864, a son of James and Sarah (Briggs) Howey, the former born in Pennsylvania, in 1824, and the latter a native of England. Mrs. Howey came to the United States with her parents when three years of age. After her marriage she came with her husband to Hardin county, locating in Blanchard township, where they became owners of a valuable farm. James Howey died in 1905, at the age of eighty-one years, and his widow survives him and is living on the home farm. They had children as follows: Mary E., Mrs. J. W. Musgrave; Rev. Matthias C., a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, and a member of the Central Ohio Conference; John R., a professional music teacher who resides in Missouri; Clement L.; Wm. W.; E. E., deceased; G. W.; and one who died in infancy.

Clement L. Howey was reared in his native township on his father's farm and attended the country schools. Reared to farm work, when old enough he began working for others, and by his strict attention to his duties and to the interests of his employers he was able to command the highest price paid for that kind of work. He gained a reputation for industry and thrift, and by his economy and good business judgment has made his own way in life, so that he now owns a productive farm and a beautiful home. He purchased his present farm of seventy-five acres in 1893, and has since resided on it, becoming well known in the community. He is a devout and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, which he served as treasurer ten years, and was also honored by election to the office of steward, and the post of class leader.

On July 28, 1887, Mr. Howey married Mary M. Kritzler, by whom

he had one daughter, Alta E. Mrs. Howey died September 4, 1898. He married on March 27, 1900, Sylphia Finley, and they became the parents of two children, John W., deceased, and Ruth J. Mrs. Howey was born in Bluffton, Allen county, Ohio, June 6, 1872.

Henry J. Bloom, a successful and practical farmer of Pleasant township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born in Kenton, Ohio, in 1863, and is a son of Bernhard and Anna K. (Alt) Bloom, both natives of Germany, the former born June 14, 1831, and the latter February 21, 1837. Bernhard Bloom and his wife emigrated to the United States in 1851 and 1856, respectively, and the father was six and the mother was eight weeks on board a sailing vessel in crossing the ocean. When he first came to America he worked for the Big Four Railroad Company. He was married in 1857, and in 1866 bought a farm of forty-seven and one-half acres in Buck township, Hardin county, upon which he lived fourteen years. In 1880 he bought a farm of one hundred and twenty-one and two-thirds acres in Pleasant township, which was partly improved and which he developed into a well tilled and productive farm. He and his wife have now retired from active life, and still reside on this farm. They are the parents of three children, namely: William, Mrs. G. Cook and Henry J.

Henry J. Bloom was reared on a farm and received his education in the country schools. He became an enterprising farmer and is a good manager. He and his brother conduct the farm together; it is situated about three miles north of Kenton. They follow general farming and raise some stock. They carry on their farm along scientific lines, and the results are gratifying. They own eighty acres in this neighborhood and Henry J. also owns ten acres more where his parents live. He married Mrs. Anna Roby, whose maiden name was Cook, in 1903; they have no children. Mr. Edward B. Roby died August 4, 1901, the father of Minnie E. and Omer R. Roby. Mr. Bloom is well known in the community for his enterprise and thrift, and is highly respected by all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance. In politics he is a Democrat. The family are members of the St. John Evangelical church of Kenton and are active in its work, especially in the Sunday school.

George W. Darst.—An honored representative of the native-born citizens of Hardin county, and the son of a pioneer settler, George W. Darst, now living retired from active pursuits at Kenton, has been an able assistant in the development and advancement of the agricultural resources of this fertile region, and by his sagacity and foresight has at the same time been enabled to accumulate a competency. A son of Rev. Harrison P. Darst, he was born, February 8, 1840, in Washington township, Hardin county, of Virginian stock.

Born May 8, 1818, in Woodstock, Virginia, Harrison P. Darst spent his early years in his native state. Left an orphan when a child, he was bound out to a saddletree maker, who kept him at work early and late. Becoming discontented with his lot he ran away and was fortunate enough to find a home with a drover, who treated him most kindly.

Subsequently migrating to Ohio, he lived for a time in Pickaway county, and there took unto himself a wife. Coming to Hardin county in 1837, he entered one hundred and sixty acres of land in Washington township, and in the clearing that he soon made built from round logs a small cabin, into which he moved with his bride before the chimney was made or the floor laid. The land roundabout was then in its original wildness, game of all kinds inhabiting the primeval forest, and the people lived in a most primitive manner. For some time he was the only man that owned a team, and when he went to mill, the nearest one being at West Liberty in Logan county, he used to carry three or four of his neighbors. These pioneers, taking bread enough to last during the four days consumed in making the round trip, would shoot wild game and cook and camp by the wayside. When he was away on one of these trips his wife, who was left alone with a young babe, retired to her cot in a corner of the room. She was subsequently awakened by a strange noise, and by the dim light of the fire saw a bear in the room climbing the side of the cabin for a piece of meat hanging there. On securing the meat he left, much to the relief of the poor woman. Rev. Harrison P. Darst was a man of sincere religious convictions, and became a local preacher in the Christian church, in this capacity preaching in various places, at the same time superintending the improvement of his land. In 1858 he visited relatives in Virginia, procured some family papers and a few valuable relics. On his return trip he made the unfortunate mistake of trying to ford a river when the water was too high. He managed to free the horses from the wagon, and they swam ashore, dragging him along, but the wagon and its contents were lost. He died on the home farm on October 31, 1860. Although a Democrat until 1856, he was a strong anti-slavery man, and his home became a station on the underground railway, and through it many a poor slave passed on to freedom.

Rev. Harrison P. Darst married, in Pickaway county, Ohio, Catherine Teegardin, who was born in that county June 14, 1814, a daughter of William Teegardin, a Pennsylvania German who became a pioneer of that part of Ohio. Serving in the war of 1812 William Teegardin was for awhile stationed at the block house in Upper Sandusky. He was very successful as an agriculturist, becoming owner of extensive tracts of land in Sugar Creek township, Allen county, and gave to each of his eleven children valuable property, giving one hundred and sixty acres of land to each of seven children, while to the other four he gave each one a home in Pickaway county. He died at the venerable age of eighty-four years. Mrs. Catherine (Teegardin) Darst died February 19, 1901, leaving five children, namely: George W., of whom we write; Sarah E., wife of John Clinger, of Upper Sandusky; John, deceased, lived in Pacific Grove, California; Rebecca, wife of Eli Kridler, of the same place; and Maria M., wife of W. H. Obenour, also of Pacific Grove.

Educated in the district schools, George W. Darst was brought up on the home farm, the management of which, owing to the ill health of his father, devolved upon him when he was a mere youth. In September, 1862, he enlisted in Company A, Eighty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with his brother John, joining his command at Stafford Court

House, Virginia, and he remained with his regiment until the close of the war, participating in many important engagements, including the battle of Gettysburg. He was with Sherman on the march to the sea, up through the Carolinas, and after the Grand Review at Washington, D. C., was honorably discharged from the service, in June, 1865. His brother went through with him and died at Pacific Grove, California, June 7, 1909.

Returning then to the parental homestead, Mr. Darst continued its management until 1878, when he devoted his time to his duties as a sheriff, a position to which he was elected in 1877, and served two terms. He was subsequently engaged in the insurance business until 1891, when he was appointed by Governor McKinley as policeman and given control of the Capitol and grounds in Columbus. In this capacity Mr. Darst served acceptably six years. In 1897 he returned to his farm, and for ten years was successfully employed in agricultural pursuits. Selling out in 1907, he has since lived retired in Kenton.

Mr. Darst married, October 22, 1865, Hannah E. Eulin, who was born in Washington township, Hardin county, Ohio, on the 21st of August, 1844, a daughter of John P. Eulin. Her great-grandfather, Benjamin Eulin, a Virginian, was a genuine frontiersman, and a noted Indian fighter, rescuing many white women from the savages. Being pursued by a band of redskins on one of his raids, he jumped off a steep embankment and received injuries which caused his death. Mrs. Darst's grandfather, Benjamin Eulin, born in Virginia, followed the march of civilization westward, located first in Pennsylvania and from there came to Ohio, settling among the pioneers of Columbus. He subsequently moved to Coshocton county, and in 1830 drove across the country with his family to Hancock county. In 1833 he bought government land in Hardin county, put up the first flour mill in this section to be operated with horse power, and was here a resident several years. He moved from here to Iowa, and there spent the closing years of his life. He married Elizabeth Elder.

Born, July 17, 1818, in Columbus, Ohio, John P. Eulin began life for himself at the age of nineteen years, taking a contract to clear ten acres of the land now included in the present site of Dunkirk, receiving ten dollars an acre for his work. He was later variously employed, and when he had accumulated a sufficient sum he bought timbered land in Washington township, Hardin county, and here lived until 1862. He then bought a farm in Cessna township, where he spent the remainder of his life, passing away March 1, 1887. He married, in 1842, Elizabeth Lynch, who was born in Coshocton county, Ohio, August 14, 1825, a daughter of George Lynch. She died May 22, 1891, leaving three children, namely: Mrs. Darst, who died February 11, 1910; Benjamin P. Eulin; and Emma E., who died October 11, 1867.

Mr. and Mrs. Darst had seven children, but all died in infancy except A. Frank and Otto C. A. Frank Darst, who received a practical education in the public schools of Kenton, is now living in Columbus, being there employed in the transfer department in the Express Company's office. He married Gertrude Schrader. Otto C. Darst attended

the Ohio State University at Columbus, and subsequently made a special study of architecture under the tutorship of Mr. Gilbert in New York, and of Mr. Granger in Chicago, and subsequently studied in Europe. He is now engaged in architectural business in Columbus and is fast forging to the front as a leading architect of that city. Mr. Darst has always been a Republican in politics, and a stanch supporter of the principles of his party. In his official life he performed his duties with marked ability and fidelity, winning the approval of his constituents. He is a member of Cantwell Post, No. 97, G. A. R., and was in December, 1909, elected commander of his Post, which he helped to organize in 1883 and of which he is a charter member.

Robert H. Mitchell.—The late Robert H. Mitchell, of Kenton, Ohio, was an able and highly respected business man, and was well known in the community. Mr. Mitchell was born in Gloversville, New York, March 24, 1832, and was a son of Peter H. and Catherine (Demarest) Mitchell, both natives of the state of New York. Peter H. Mitchell and his wife moved to Wyandot county, Ohio, where they lived a short time, after which they removed to Missouri. Mrs. Mitchel was taken sick and died about 1862, after which Peter H. Mitchell returned to Ohio, locating in Marseilles, where his son, Robert H., was then living.

Robert H. Mitchell spent much of his eary life working in mills, spending a short time in Kentucky in this occupation. At the time of the Civil war he enlisted for a short time in Company G, One Hundred and Forty-fourth Infantry, Ohio National Guard, under General Lew Wallace. At the close of the war he lived for a time on a farm near Marseilles, Ohio, and about 1868 he moved with his family to Kenton, Hardin county, where he bought a woolen mill, and he conducted the same until the panic of 1872, when he failed in business and began working as commercial traveler. Mr. Mitchell spent a number of years on the road and then worked in the office of the house he had represented, which was located in Columbus, Ohio. He continued in this position until his death, December 11, 1902.

Politically Mr. Mitchell was a Republican, and he was a member of the Masonic order. He was an earnest member of the Presbyterian church, conscientious and honest in his dealings with his fellow men, and highly regarded by his associates. He was a man of high character, who made and retained the friendship of many. Mr. Mitchell married, in 1852, Elizabeth Terry, daughter of Ethan and Barbara (Heckathorn) Terry, the former from North Carolina and the latter a native of Ohio. Ethan Terry was a surveyor and served a number of years as public surveyor of Wyandot county; after removing to Hardin county he was also elected surveyor of that county, and he surveyed the road from Kenton to Marseilles.

Mr. Mitchell and his wife became the parents of two children, Isabel and Terry, the latter of whom died at the age of thirty-five years. Isabel married James L. Moore, of Kenton, and one child was born to them, Charles. Mrs. Moore died while her child was a mere infant, and her mother, Mrs. Mitchell, took the child and reared him. He was educated

R. H. Mitchell.

by his grandmother, and became a credit to her love and care. He is a young man of good habits and high character, well liked wherever known.

HENRY J. MYERS.—Occupying a prominent position among the more intelligent, enterprising and active agriculturists of Hardin county is Henry J. Myers, whose well-managed and highly productive farm is finely located in Buck township. He has the distinction of being a native born citizen, his birth having occurred in Pleasant township September 7, 1853. His father, Henry Myers, Jr., and his grandfather, Henry Myers, Sr., were both born and reared in Brunswick, Germany.

Henry Myers, Sr., followed the trade of a carpenter in the Fatherland for a number of years. Emigrating to America about 1846, he settled in Kenton, Ohio. While still a resident of this place he bought a tract of timbered land lying south of the town, and after building a substantial log house on the place moved into it and was there engaged in clearing and improving a homestead during the remainder of his active days, dying there at the good old age of seventy-five years in 1864. He reared four children, Henry, Christian, Andrew and Hannah. Andrew enlisted as a soldier in the Civil war, and lost his life on the field of battle.

Born in Brunswick, Germany, in April, 1819, Henry Myers, Jr., was there brought up and educated. In 1845, ambitious to try his luck in a new country, he came across the ocean to the United States, making his way directly to Kenton, Ohio, where he began life for himself even with the world. He labored at any honest employment that he could find, and when the railway was in process of construction worked on that. In the fall of 1854, after his marriage, he took possession of the hewed log house which his father had built in the wilderness and turned his attention to clearing the land and tilling the soil. He subsequently succeeded to the ownership of the land, and continued the improvements already inaugurated, erecting a frame house and other farm buildings, and was there successfully employed in general farming until his death in 1897 at the age of seventy-nine years. Henry Myers, Jr., married, in 1850, Mary Kahler, who was born in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, which was also the birthplace of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Kahler. In 1848 Nicholas Kahler, with his wife and three children, set sail for America, and after battling for nine whole weeks with the turbulent waves landed, in February, in New York city. He came directly to Kenton, Ohio, which was then a small place, and was soon actively engaged in the manufacture of brick, continuing the industry a number of years. He subsequently spent the remainder of his life in or near Kenton, dying at the age of seventy-two years. His wife survived him, attaining the venerable age of eighty-seven years. His son, Conrad Kahler, became a farmer, and spent his last years in Pleasant township, Hardin county. Mrs. Mary (Kahler) Myers now occupies a pleasant home on South Main street, Kenton, where she is living in comfort and pleasure. She is highly respected for her many virtues, and is a conscientious member of the Evangelical church, and has reared her family in the same religious beliefs. To her and her husband nine children

were born, namely: Henry J., William, August, Andrew, Martha, Mary, Elizabeth, Augusta, and Emma, and all are living.

Educated in the district schools, Henry J. Myers resided beneath the parental roof until ready to start an establishment of his own, when he settled in Buck township, on the farm which he now owns and occupies. A log house on the place and a few cleared acres constituted the improvements at the time of his purchase. With the resolute spirit and ambition of a sturdy manhood, he continued the improvements, and has constantly added to its value and to its extent, having now two hundred and twenty acres of rich and fertile land, with a commodious frame house and a substantial set of farm buildings. His homestead is well stocked with horses, cattle and sheep, and he is here carrying on farming and stock raising after the most approved modern methods, his farm being one of the finest and most desirable in the vicinity.

On October 10, 1878, Mr. Myers was united in marriage with Mary Lintz, who was born in Kenton, where her parents, Nicholas and Amelia Lintz, located as pioneers on coming to this country from Germany, their native land. Mr. and Mrs. Myers have seven children living, namely: Herman, who married Fannie Fulton, has one son, Nelson; Edith; Otto; Minnie; Frances; Emma; and Florence. All are at home attending school and helping on the home farm. Mr. and Mrs. Myers belong to the Evangelical church, being among its most faithful members.

William Ruhlen.—Some of the most desirable citizens of Kenton, Ohio, are men who have spent most of their lives in hard work and have retired from active life to enjoy the fruits of their labors. Among these useful citizens is William Ruhlen, who was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, January 21, 1842, a son of George and Dorothy (Sattler) Ruhlen, both also born in Wurtemberg. About 1853 the family emigrated to the United States and settled on a farm near New California. Here Mr. Ruhlen bought ninety acres of land, of which about thirty acres were cleared, and this farm also contained an old log cabin. They put this land into good condition and later added land until they had one hundred and thirty acres, which they sold after a few years and bought a farm of two hundred and seventy acres, also near New California, where Mr. Ruhlen died about 1878. Later this farm was traded for a farm near Pottersburg, the latter containing one hundred and thirty acres. Here Mrs. Ruhlen spent her remaining years, passing away in 1888.

When sixteen years of age William Ruhlen began working on a farm near Milford, Ohio, where he spent two years and then enlisted in Company I, Seventeenth Ohio Infantry, being discharged at Zanesville in 1861. He reenlisted in September in Company K of the First Ohio Cavalry, and served with this regiment three years. He served in the battle of Missionary Ridge and took part in a skirmish in the town of Cleveland, Tennessee, when the ammunition factory was blown up by the Union forces. In this disaster many lost their lives, two who were mortally wounded being in the First Cavalry. One of these men was a man named William Johnson, who after receiving his wound was held on his horse by Mr. Ruhlen (who was riding at his side at the time) and

taken to a place of safety. Among the engagements in which Mr. Ruhlen participated were the following: Booneville, Mississippi; Russellville and Courtland, Alabama; Bardstown and Perryville, Kentucky; Stone River (December 31, 1862 to January 2, 1863) and Elk River, Tennessee; Alpine and Chickamauga, Georgia; Washington, Tennessee; Paint Rock, Decatur and Moulton, Alabama; New Day Creek and Lovejoy, Georgia; and the Atlanta campaign. Mr. Ruhlen was also engaged in the skirmish at Calhoun, Tennessee, in which one hundred and sixty southern soldiers were taken prisoners by forty Union soldiers. Mr. Ruhlen was discharged in October, 1864, at Columbia, Tennessee, and returning home, took up his affairs where he had left them. He was employed on the same farm where he had worked before the war, and continued there two years.

In April, 1867, Mr. Ruhlen married Miss Euphemia Reed, daughter of James Reed, a resident of Union county. In July of the same year they moved to a farm of seventy-seven acres situated in Hardin county, Lynn township, which he had purchased. This was all timber land, so that he had to proceed to clear same for cultivation. He erected a small log house and went to work with energy to put his land into a good state of cultivation, adding more land from time to time until he now owns a fine farm of one hundred and eighty acres, with modern improvements and substantial buildings. He is a good business manager and very industrious, so that he made the most of his land and was considered very successful in his operations. Mr. Ruhlen also owned a nice farm in Bedford county, Tennessee, which he recently turned over to his son. He and his wife became the parents of five children, all of whom are living, but Mrs. Ruhlen died September 26, 1879. In the spring of 1908 Mr. Ruhlen retired, renting his farm to a son and son-in-law, and he now lives in the substantial home he has purchased on East Columbus street, Kenton. He married February 16, 1880, Adelia Reed, daughter of Samuel L. and Margaret F. (Boal) Reed, and six children were born of this marriage.

Mr. Ruhlen has always taken an active interest in public affairs and he is a Republican. He served his township three years as trustee. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and is interested in every good cause tending toward the betterment or progress of the city and county.

William Carey, deceased, for years a prominent merchant and banker of Kenton, Ohio, settled in the county just after the town of Kenton was laid out, when it was surrounded by timber. He was a native of New Jersey, and was a son of Lewis Carey, who came to Ohio among the early settlers. Lewis Carey brought one hundred slaves with him from New Jersey, all of them belonging to him. He bought a large tract of land near Bucyrus and gave it to them, but they could not make a living for themselves without some one to take care of them, so they ran away. He spent the greater part of his life at Bucyrus, but died in Kenton, Ohio.

The early childhood of William Carey was spent in New Jersey; he came with his parents to Ohio, and in an early day came to Hardin

county, where he spent a year and then removed to Marseilles, where he married Sarah, daughter of Moses and Jane (Patterson) Dudley. Moses Dudley was among the first white settlers of Hardin county, Ohio, and the town of Kenton was not laid out at the time. He helped build the first road through Hardin county and erected the first jail in Kenton. He purchased one hundred acres of land in the vicinity of Kenton and improved it, later selling out. He bought land farther down the river, where he lived for a number of years, then removed to Versailles, Ohio, and after spending a few years there he returned to Kenton and spent his remaining years with his daughter.

About five years after his marriage William Carey returned to Kenton, where he conducted a general store for several years, and also became the pioneer banker of Kenton, establishing the Carey Bank. On account of ill health, however, Mr. Carey retired and lived only about one year afterward. He was a public-spirited citizen, and interested in every movement for the betterment and development of the town. He was a Republican after the establishment of that party, and actively interested in public affairs. He and his wife were parents of ten children, of whom three now survive. He is well remembered in Kenton where he was well known and highly esteemed.

Albert Dean.—One of the pioneer merchants of Kenton was Albert Dean, deceased, who was born in Stamford, Connecticut, March 5, 1805. Mr. Dean was a son of Lebbius and Ruah (Weed) Dean, who came to the state of Ohio before the construction of the Erie canal and were among the earliest settlers. Lebbius Dean, with his family and possessions, started from Connecticut to Ohio in December, 1821, having a team of horses and a yoke of oxen. Their way was attended by many hardships and dangers; in many places they had literally to cut their road through the woods, and the wild animals and Indians were often annoying. However, by spring they had reached Columbus, where they stopped for a time. Afterward Mr. Dean took up six hundred and forty acres of land from the government in Franklin county. He erected a log house and began clearing and improving his farm, so that by the time a few years had passed the result of his industry was very apparent in the state of his farm. He built a comfortable house and other suitable buildings, and here he and his wife spent the remainder of their days. This farm has passed down to the fourth generation from the original settler.

The boyhood of Albert Dean passed as that of other sons of pioneers. His educational advantages were meager, but he made the most of his opportunities and helped with the work of the farm when he was old enough. About 1844 he moved to Hardin county and spent a short time on a farm, after which he located in the city of Kenton and embarked in the dry goods business. He built up an excellent trade, but later sold his business and engaged in the harness industry with his brother. Their business grew to fair proportions and they remained in business together a number of years. Albert Dean showed his business acumen by his good investments in real estate, and some of the property

he purchaed in Kenton is now very valuable. Some time before his death he sold his interest in the harness business and retired from active life. Politically he was a Republican, and he belonged to the Presbyterian church. Mr. Dean became well known and highly respected in Kenton and the surrounding community, and was considered a substantial, representative citizen.

About 1832 Albert Dean married Miss Jane Dalzell, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Laughlin) Dalzell, natives of Ireland. Eight children were born to Mr. Dean and his wife, of whom five still survive.

PHILIP H. HISEY, one of the oldest and most highly respected citizens of Kenton, is a worthy representative of those courageous pioneers who came to Ohio at an early period of its settlement and assisted in the development of its varied resources. During his four score years of residence in this state he has witnessed wonderful transformations. In his boyhood days neither railways, telegraph or telephone line spanned these broad acres, few, if any, evidences of civilization were then in evidence; while now flourishing towns and cities and magnificent agricultural regions have usurped the place of the forest, and the fertile acres yield abundantly and to spare. A native of Virginia, Mr. Hisey was born, December 31, 1826, in Monroe county, a son of John Hisey.

John Hisey, born of German parents, spent his last years in Monroe county, Virginia, dying in early life, about 1827. He married Priscilla Hutchison, who was born, probably, in Virginia, and at his death left her with two small children, a daughter Martha and a son Philip H., who is the subject of this sketch. His widow, Mrs. John Hisey, came with her two young children to Ohio about 1829 and settled in Lawrence county. She subsequently there married Daniel S. Vermilion, and in 1834, in November, located in Linn township, Hardin county, on one hundred and sixty acres of land which had been given to Mr. Vermilion by his father. Cutting away trees to make space for a dwelling, Mr. Vermilion erected a cabin of small round logs, with a puncheon floor, a stick and mud chimney, and a roof covered with split boards. Mrs. Vermilion did all of her cooking by the fireplace, and from the flax and wool raised on the land carded, spun and wove the homespun from which she made the clothes for the family. Mr. Vermilion in the meantime made the shoes, each member of the family having one pair a year. With the assistance of his step-son and his own sons he cleared one hundred acres of the land and made substantial improvements on the place. He first replaced the original cabin with one made of hewed logs, and later built a good frame house and two large barns. He set out fruit and shade trees, starting a fine orchard from apple tree sprouts that he brought with him from Lawrence county when he returned from a visit made to his former home in 1836. He died at a ripe old age, and his wife died when seventy-four years old. By her second marriage Mrs. Vermilion reared ten children.

An infant when his father died, Philip H. Hisey was seven years old when he came with his mother and step-father to Lynn township. He was reared among pioneer scenes, and remembers well when Cherokee,

Northwood and West Liberty were the only milling points in Logan county, and all grain grown in this locality had to be taken to one of those places to be ground, while the farmers of this vicinity took their surplus produce to Sandusky, where he had his first glimpse of a railroad. The log schoolhouse in which he learned to read and write was furnished with slab seats, with wooden pegs for legs, no desks in front, while a piece of glass inserted in a space cut in a log admitted a dim light. Leaving home at the age of twenty-two, Mr. Hisey borrowed an axe and earned his first money as a wood chopper and a farm hand. Industrious and thrifty, he saved his wages, and subsequently bought a tract of timber land in Lynn township. Building then a nice hewed log house, he there began housekeeping with his bride. Selling out a short time after for five hundred dollars he operated a saw mill in Jackson township for five years. In 1857, in company with Mr. Edward Clark, he embarked in the dry goods business at Patterson, Hardin county, and at the end of a year moved to Yelverton and later bought out his partner and removed to Taylor Creek township, where he continued as a merchant for some time, carrying a good stock of general merchandise. Selling out in 1884, Mr. Hisey has since resided in Kenton. During the time that has since elapsed he has bought and sold several farming estates, and now owns two well improved and valuable farms, one in Lynn township and one in Taylor Creek township, from the rentals of which he receives a handsome annual income.

Mr. Hisey married, in 1851, Mary E. Piper, who was born in New Hampshire, a daughter of Amos and Elizabeth Piper, who migrated from that state to Richland county, Ohio, and from there came, in 1848, to Hardin county, locating in what is now Lynn township. Mrs. Hisey passed to the life beyond in 1907, aged seventy-four years. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hisey, namely: May E., who died in infancy; Ira and Iva Myrtle. Ira married Jane Fuls and they have six children, Hattie, Grace, Esther, Mabel, Ruthie and Phyllis. Iva M. keeps house for her father. Mr. Hisey has one great-grandchild, named for him, Philip H. Ragan, a son of Mrs. Grace Ragan, of Columbus Ohio. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hisey united with the Presbyterian church when young. Politically Mr. Hisey is a Republican and has voted at every presidential election since casting his first vote for General Zachary Taylor.

Daniel W. Rose.—Eminently deserving of representation in this volume is Daniel W. Rose, who comes of pioneer stock, is a veteran of the Civil war and is identified with the interests of Kenton as a dealer in real estate. A son of the late James Rose, he was born, July 28, 1844, in Delaware township, Hancock county, Ohio. His grandfather, James Rose, Sr., was born and brought up in England. When a young man he, with his brothers, Jesse and John, emigrated to America, locating first on Long Island, and later one of the brothers settled in the Western Reserve. The grandfather, too, came to Ohio, but located in Hancock county, having, however, first spent a short time in Fairfield, Greene county.

James Rose, Jr., was born during the residence of his parents in Hancock, Maryland, and with them crossed the country to Fairfield, Ohio, where as a young man he learned the trades of a carpenter and cabinet maker. Early in the '30s he became a pioneer settler of Hancock county, Ohio, where, two miles south of Mount Blanchard, he purchased eighty acres of government land and soon after purchased eighty acres more of a Mr. Harshbarger. Beginning at once the establishment of a home in the wilderness by erecting a log cabin, he began the clearing of a homestead. His earnest labors were rewarded, and in addition to redeeming a good farm from the wild land he rendered material assistance in the development and advancement of the locality, living there until his death, in May, 1868. He married Sarah Spurgeon. Ten children were born of their union, namely: Keziah, Emily, Thomas J., Caroline, David, Martha, Elias, Eli, Daniel W., and Lorenzo D. W.

The typical pioneer schoolhouse in which Daniel W. Rose obtained his early education was built of logs, with puncheon floors, slab benches with wooden pins inserted for legs, while a plank placed along one side of the room furnished a place upon which the older pupils learned to use the quill pen. When not in school he assisted his father in the daily work of the farm, and at the age of seventeen years joined the State Militia. On April 2, 1864, Mr. Rose was sworn into the United States service for a period of one hundred days as a member of Company A, One Hundred and Thirty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Going south he joined General Butler's command, and served with his regiment in all of its marches and campaigns until the expiration of his term, when he received his honorable discharge. On February 6, 1865, Mr. Rose reenlisted, joining Company I, One Hundred and Ninety-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and went with his comrades, and was in the Shenandoah valley at the time of Lee's surrender. He was chosen by the colonel as color guard, the color bearer's right hand man. Honorably discharged on September 1, 1865, Mr. Rose returned home, and the ensuing four years was engaged in farming for himself on the parental homestead. Coming to Hardin county in 1869, he purchased eighty acres of land in Jackson township, and on it raised two crops. Trading that land far a tract lying three miles south of Mount Blanchard, Mr. Rose resided there two seasons, and then sold out and bought sixty acres of land, the old Shaw place, lying across the river in the same township. A year later, taking advantage of a good offer, he sold that farm, and bought the old Musgrave homestead of one hundred acres in the same township, and was engaged in its management for three years. Again selling at an advance, Mr. Rose purchased eighty acres of land in Madison township, and also bought property in Dunkirk, where he lived for six months. Taking possession then of the Madison township farm, situated one and one-half miles west of Williamstown, he was there engaged in tilling the soil until 1881, when he sold and invested his money in Jay county, Indiana, buying two farms of eighty acres each. Disposing of both farms in 1886, Mr. Rose, whose health was badly impaired, came to Kenton, where he lived retired a number of years. In 1897, having recovered to some extent his former

physical vigor, he bought a farm of one hundred and forty-five acres in Adams county, Indiana, and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits for four years. In 1901 he returned to Kenton and has since been actively and profitably engaged in the real estate business.

Mr. Rose married, in 1868, Jane Scott, who was born in Crawford county, Ohio, a daughter of John and Amelia Scott. Three children were born of their union Flora, Ella May and Edwin Rose. Ella May died when five months old. Edwin Rose married first Mary Krenbihl, who died in early life, leaving one child, Ellen. He married for his second wife Estella Woods, and they have one child, James D. Rose. This wife also died and he married for his third wife Nellie Weller. Flora Rose married first Edward Wilson, and married second P. F. Swanger. By her first marriage Mrs. Swanger had two children, Effie and Goldie G. By her present union she has one child, Charlie Swanger. Mr. Rose is a member of Cantwell Post No. 99, G. A. R.

J. Harry Wagner.—Widely known throughout this section of the state in his official capacity of sheriff of Hardin county, J. Harry Wagner, of Kenton, has spent the larger part of his life in this vicinity, contributing towards the advancement of its agricultural and industrial interests and gaining for himself the reputation of one who deserves the confidence and trust of his fellow-men. A son of W. H. H. Wagner, he was born, September 20, 1870, in Pleasant township, Hardin county, coming from pioneer ancestry, his paternal grandfather, Henry L. Wagner, and his maternal grandfather, John H. Gary, having been early settlers of this county.

W. H. H. Wagner, a native of Warren county, Ohio, came to Hardin county when young, and was brought up on the homestead cleared and improved by his father. He became a farmer, and was for many years engaged in tilling the soil in Pleasant township, but is now a resident of Kenton. He married Mary A. Gary, who came to Hardin county with her parents, and to them six children were born, three of whom are living, J. Harry being the eldest.

Growing to man's estate on the home farm, J. Harry Wagner early became familiar with its various labors, in the meantime obtaining a practical education in the common schools. A natural mechanic, he made use of his talents by learning the carpenter's trade, under the tuition of J. S. Scott, of Kenton, and for awhile, in addition to farming, carried on a substantial business as a contractor and builder. An active worker in the Republican party, Mr. Wagner was elected sheriff of Hardin county in 1908, and has since served in this position with recognized ability. He has been successful in his career, and is the owner of a valuable farming property in Taylor Creek township.

Mr. Wagner married, November 16, 1892, Olive Brelsford, a daughter of James J. and Victoria (Smiley) Brelsford, of Hardin county, and they have one child, Juanita Wagner. Fraternally Mr. Wagner is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; and of the local Grange.

James M. Baldwin, who is engaged in a real estate, loan and insurance business at Kenton, Ohio, has been a resident of this place for over twenty-five years. He is a native of Ohio, born in Logan county, August 30, 1843, of Western Reserve pioneer stock, his ancestors having come here at an early day from Pennsylvania. Jonah Baldwin, his father, Jerrub Baldwin, his grandfather, were both born in Ohio, the former in Stark county. Jonah Baldwin, now eighty-six years of age, is a resident of West Mansfield, this state. His wife, Mary (Yarrington) Baldwin, a native of Union county, Ohio, died at the age of seventy-eight years. Her father, Ephraim Yarrington, came from his native state, Pennsylvania, to Ohio at an early day. Jonah and Mary Baldwin had eight children, six sons and two daughters; all the sons are living but the daughters are deceased.

When James M., the eldest of the children was about twelve years old his father moved to West Mansfield and settled on a farm, which as a boy, he helped to clear and cultivate, and which he left just as he was entering manhood to answer his country's call. On August 8, 1862, he enlisted as a member of Company H, Ninety-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and as a private he shared the fortunes of his command until the close of the war. He was mustered out at Mobile, Alabama, and discharged at Columbus, Ohio, July 31, 1865. During his service he was in thirteen hard fought battles, besides numerous lesser engagements, but was fortunate enough to escape without a wound. For a time he was ill and in hospital. The year following his return from the army he married, and for several years thereafter was engaged in contracting and carpenter work. He spent one year at Mt. Victory, Ohio, after which he went over into Indiana and settled in Rochester, where he made his home fifteen years. After this he lived two years in Warsaw, and in 1884 came back from there to Ohio and took up his residence in Kenton, where he has since remained. Here he continued work at the carpenter's trade until 1900, and since then has been engaged in a real estate and insurance business. Also he is a justice of the peace, having been elected to this office November 8, 1904.

Mr. Baldwin married, on May 17, 1866, Miss Sarah F. Kennedy, who was born on a farm in Hardin county December 9, 1844, a daughter of Moses and Nancy Kennedy. To them were born a son and daughter. The latter, Ida May, is the wife of L. Wilson, and the son, Charles E., married Mattie I. Cessna, of South Kenton. Politically Mr. Baldwin has been a life-long Republican. He is prominent and active in the Grand Army of the Republic, being a member of Cantwell Post, No. 97, in which he has filled all the chairs. Also he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His religious creed is that of the Methodist Episcopal church, with which he has been identified all his life and in which for years he served as class-leader.

William A. Hatch.—Among the native born citizens of Hardin county noted for their intelligence and capabilty is William A. Hatch, a representative agriculturist of Pleasant township, and proprietor of "Locust Lawn Farm," one of the model rural estates of this section of

Ohio. Clear-headed and active, possessing excellent judgment, he is meeting with eminent success as a general farmer and stock-raiser, and is widely and favorably known as an upright, honorable man. He was born, in 1850, in Cessna township, Hardin county, a son of Chester Hatch, coming on the paternal side of substantial New England ancestry.

Born in Vermont, Chester Hatch grew to a vigorous manhood among the rugged hills of his native state. Lured westward by the glowing accounts of cheap lands to be found in Ohio, he came to Hardin county in 1845, locating in Cessna township, where he purchased eighty acres of land that was still in its virgin wildness. In his New England home he had obtained a practical education, and after coming to this county he taught school during several winter seasons, in the meantime working hard during the long summers on his land. By diligence, thrift and good management he improved a good farm, on which he spent the remainder of his life, passing away in 1902. He was prominent in local affairs, serving many years as justice of the peace, and holding minor offices of responsibility. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Chambers, was born and brought up in Pennsylvania, in the vicinity of Chambersburg, and died, in 1900, in Cessna township. Two sons were born of their union, namely: David and William A. David married Matilda Gillon, who died in 1879, in early womanhood.

William A. Hatch was educated in the common schools of Cessna township, and while on the home farm was initiated into the mysteries of agriculture. Following in the footsteps of his father, he taught school a number of winter terms when a young man, working on the farm during seed time and harvest. He afterward began his agricultural career by purchasing forty acres of land adjoining his father's homestead, in Cessna township, where he carried on his chosen occupation for a while. Wishing to enlarge his operations, Mr. Hatch removed to Washington township, where he bought a farm of eighty acres, which he managed with excellent pecuniary results for a number of seasons. In 1900 he purchased Locust Lawn Farm in Pleasant township, and three years later, in 1903, took possession of the property. Mr. Hatch is carrying on his labors after the latest and most approved scientific methods, his one hundred and twenty acres of land being well cultivated and well improved and considered one of the most valuable in the neighborhood. His farming machinery and implements are of the most improved patterns, and everything about the place is in keeping with the appliances of a first-class agriculturist.

Mr. Hatch married, on October 29, 1879, Elizabeth N. Hagerman, who was born in Marion township, Hardin county, daughter of Rev. Samuel Hagerman. Mr. Hagerman was born in Carroll county, Ohio, but was brought up and educated in Richland county, Ohio, where as a young man he learned the blacksmith's trade. Removing to Hardin county in 1836, he bought forty acres of land in Marion township, and by dint of earnest labor cleared and improved a homestead. In conjunction with farming, he followed his trade, burning the charcoal which he used in his forge. Converted in early life, he united with the Methodist Episcopal church, which he subsequently served ably and

faithfully for many years, first as a licensed preacher and afterward as an ordained elder. He was active in the ministry until a short time before his death, which occurred, August 30, 1884, at Ada, Ohio. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and showed much interest in the Order. Mr. Hagerman married Elizabeth Hiles, who survived him many years, passing away in 1898. She bore him the following children, namely: Dayton A.; Mary M.; John W.; Eliza E., deceased; Elizabeth E., deceased; Samuel A.; Edith A.; Elizabeth N. wife of Mr. Hatch; William J., a prominent minister of Toledo, pastor of the Second Methodist church; Genevra J.; Sarah; Alfretta; and Benson, deceased.

Dr. Jacob A. Grove, formerly a prominent physician and now living at Kenton, Ohio, retired from active life, was born in York county, Pennsylvania, September 8, 1833, and is a son of Jacob and Agnes (Martin) Grove, both natives of Pennsylvania. The father was a weaver by trade, also carried on a farm, and he died in his native state when about seventy-four years of age. He was of German descent. His widow survived him and lived to be ninety-four years old, her death being caused by accident. They were the parents of four sons and four daughters, six children growing to maturity, three sons and three daughters, and besides Dr. Grove one other survives, Mrs. Elizabeth Margaret Hyson, of York county, Pennsylvania. Jacob Adams is the youngest child of the family.

The boyhood of Dr. Grove was spent in his native state, and he received his education in the public schools of Stewartstown and the academy at that town. At the age of twenty-one years he began teaching school, which he followed three or four winters, when he moved to Ohio, settling at Mount Blanchard, Hancock county, where he taught school one summer. In the spring of 1861 Mr. Grove enlisted in Company F, Twenty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, serving four months. Returning to Mount Blanchard, he finished his fall and winter terms of school, and in the spring of 1862 he began studying medicine. He reenlisted July 4, 1863, in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war, in 1865. He served twenty-nine months in all and about the last year was detailed as a musician. He resumed his study of medicine at the close of the war, and began the practice of his profession in the spring of 1866, at Mount Blanchard. He continued in the successful practice of medicine there until 1893, when he removed to Kenton and retired from active life. He has made his home in Kenton many years, and is one of the public-spirited and representative citizens of the town. He is well known and highly respected. He was a member of the Ohio State Eclectic Medical Association and of the National and Northwestern Eclectic Medical societies. He has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows since 1858, and also belongs to the Masons, with which order he has been affiliated a number of years. At one time Dr. Grove was an active and prominent member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, and has been an elder since October 6, 1895. Before the inception of the Republican

party Dr. Grove was a Whig, but since its organization has supported the Republican party. He had the satisfaction of voting twice for Abraham Lincoln and has helped elect all the Republican presidents. He is actively interested in local affairs, and keeps well informed in current events and issues.

Dr. Grove married on February 14, 1867, Phebe, daughter of Charles and Sarah (Twining) VanHorn, of Hancock county, Ohio; she died March 29, 1889. Dr. Grove married for his second wife, January 1, 1891, Ella Eliza McClay, who was born in Logan, Hocking county, Ohio, and reared in Licking county. She was educated in the common schools and also attended the Granville school. She prepared herself for teaching and taught twenty-three years in Licking, Hancock, Wood, Allen and Hardin counties. She taught seven years in the Central building in Kenton. Her father, William McClay, was born in county Donegal, Ireland, and died in his seventy-eighth year. He was a carpenter by trade and came to America when twenty years of age. He served in the Seventy-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry until discharged on account of disability. He settled in Ohio about 1835, and made his home in Hocking county. He married Sarah Nelson, a native of county Down, Ireland, who came to America when twelve years old, coming with her father. She was reared in Virginia, remaining there until her marriage. Mrs. Grove is the youngest of their seven children, those growing to maturity being Miss Mary Jane, James W. and Mrs. Grove. Her mother was the youngest of her father's family and Mrs. McClay's father was the youngest child of his father's family. Mr. McClay was for a long time a resident of Philadelphia, before locating in Ohio. He was married in Virginia, and soon after moved to Ohio.

James W. McClay enlisted in the Home Guards when but seventeen years of age; they were called to Columbus, Ohio, and there asked if they wanted to go out of the state, Mr. McClay being the first to step out and declare his willingness to do so. He was taken prisoner July 4, 1864. He was a member of Company F, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and his Company, with another, were keeping guard of a road in West Virginia when all were captured, some being sent to Andersonville. Mr. McClay was a prisoner for nine months and twenty-five days, and spent this length of time in Andersonville. He was one of seven in his mess to return home, all the others having died. He lived to the age of thirty-one years. Mr. McClay married Miss V. Rollison and they had two sons, one of whom died when small and the other, E. R. McClay, at the age of thirty-one years.

Isaac E. Wilson.—Especially worthy of mention in a work of this character is Isaac E. Wilson, of Kenton, who is distinguished not only for the honored ancestry from which he is descended but for his fine record of service as a county official, and for the substantial position he has attained among the leading agriculturists of this part of Hardin county. A native and to the manner born, his birth occurred September 20, 1842, in Pleasant township, this county. His father, John Wilson, Jr., and his grandfather, John Wilson, Sr., were both natives of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania. Colonel James Wilson, great-grand-

Isaac E. Wilson

Willis H. Wilson

father of Isaac E., was born in the north of Ireland, of Scotch ancestry, and was as far as known the only member of his immediate family to cross the Atlantic. Coming to the United States in colonial times, he commanded a regiment in the Revolutionary war, having enlisted in Pennsylvania, and was at the front in various engagements. He was also one of the nine men from the Keystone state that signed the Declaration of Independence.

John Wilson, Sr., served under General Wayne in the war of 1812. He subsequently came with his family to Ohio, settling as a pioneer in Holmes county. He moved from there to Richland county, later coming to Hardin county, and he spent his last years with his son, John Wilson, Jr. Born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, July 25, 1811, John Wilson, Jr., was quite young when he came with his parents to Ohio. He married in Richland county, and in 1839 came to Hardin county to live, being one of the first settlers of Pleasant township. Buying a tract of timber lying five miles north of Kenton, and close to the present site of Grant station, he built a two-story hewed log house, a pretentious structure for those days, when most of the people were content to live in humble log cabins. The surrounding country was in its primeval condition, wild beasts roaming at will through the forests, while Indians were numerous and for the most part friendly. There were no markets nearer than Sandusky, and the trip across the country made with teams was long and tedious, these highways being rough. The first mill in this vicinity was operated by horse power, the farmers being obliged to unhitch their own horses and place them to the power whenever they wanted grain ground. Little do the people of this day of comforts and even luxuries realize the hardships and the trials endured, the great ambition required and the physical endurance demanded to secure the homes established by the Ohio pioneers for themselves and their descendants. Though not an extremely tall man, John Wilson, Jr., possessed a fine physique, being noted for his strength and endurance. Improving a fine farm from the wilderness, he continued a resident of Pleasant township until 1865, and then moved to Hancock county where he lived until his death, August 25, 1895, at the advanced age of four score and four years. He was a Republican in politics, and a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church. John Wilson, Jr., was twice married. He married first Phoebe Osbun, who was born in Richland county, Ohio, where her father, Nathaniel Osbun, settled as a pioneer, and cleared and improved the land now occupied by the Richland County Infirmary. She died in 1857, in the prime of life. He married for his second wife Mary Jane Bushong, who died in 1896. Of his first union nine children were born, namely: Eve, Thurza, Eliza, Ann, Mary, Sarah, Rachel, Isaac E. and Nathaniel.

The little one-story cabin built of round logs in which Isaac E. Wilson obtained his early schooling was furnished with seats made of split linn wood saplings, one side being hewn, with wooden pins inserted for legs, having no backs and no desks in front, the older scholars learning to write on a board placed against one side of the cabin, the whole being very unevenly heated by a fireplace. On June 6, 1861, abandoning

work in the fields, Mr. Wilson enlisted in Company D, Fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered into service at Camp Denison, near Cincinnati, and on June 20 of that year started for West Virginia. He first met the enemy in battle at Rich Mountain, and soon after that event his regiment was assigned to the Third Brigade of the Second Division, Second Corps, of the Army of the Potomac, commanded by General Hancock, who claimed that this corps captured more colors and more arms than all of the rest of the Union forces combined. With his comrades Mr. Wilson participated in many of the more noted engagements of the war, including among others the two at Romney, Winchester, Port Republic, Harrison Landing, Second Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericsburg, Gettysburg, Bristol Station, Mine Run, Wilderness, Poe Run, and Spottsylvania. At the latter battle he was wounded in the left shoulder, and sent to the hospital for treatment. He rejoined the regiment at Cold Harbor, and was honorably discharged on account of the expiration of his term of enlistment. On March 31, 1865, Mr. Wilson enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Ninety-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, for a second term of service, and was stationed at Camp Chase, Columbus, to guard Confederate soldiers until May 8, 1865, when he was honorably discharged.

Returning home Mr. Wilson entered the employ of Rev. Jacob Holmes, whose farm he managed for two years. He subsequently followed the carpenter's trade until 1872, when he was appointed superintendent of the Hardin County Infirmary, and served four years. He afterwards followed his trade three years, when, in 1879, he was again honored with an appointment as superintendent of the same infirmary, and held the position during the next thirteen years, discharging the duties devolving upon him as head of that institution with ability and fidelity. In the meantime Mr. Wilson purchased one hundred acres of the land included in his present farm, which is advantageously located on Scioto Valley pike. He cleared off the heavy growth of timber, erected a substantial set of buildings, and has here been successfully engaged in general farming since, his estate with its excellent improvements being very attractive and valuable.

Mr. Wilson married, in 1867, Kate Hufnagle, who was born at Chillicothe, Ross county, Ohio, a daughter of John and Harriet Hufnagle. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have had four children, Willis H. and Hattie, and two that died in infancy. Willis H. Wilson married Hallie Baird, and they have three chilrden, Clifford, Kathryn and Flora. He enlisted in Company I, Second Ohio Regiment, on May 10, 1898, for the Spanish-American war, and was mustered out February 4, 1899. He had been fourteen years a member of the Ohio Second Regiment of Militia and was second lieutenant for three years and first lieutenant for four years, but had resigned his commission before the opening of the Spanish-American war. Hattie Wilson married Orlando Doster and they are the parents of five children, Esther, Isaac, Harl, Ellen and Eulah. Religiously Mr. and Mrs. Wilson are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically a steadfast Republican, Mr. Wilson served as deputy sheriff in 1887 and 1888 and is now agent for the Hardin County

Humane Society. He is an active member of Cantwell Post No. 97, Grand Army of the Republic, which he has served as junior and senior vice-commander and as commander, and has also been an aide de camp on the staff of the department commander.

James C. Poling.—Among the substantial, public-spirited citizens of Kenton, Ohio, is James C. Poling, surveyor of Hardin county. He was born in Hocking county, Ohio, September 18, 1868, and is the fourth son of Samuel B. and Irene (Smith) Poling. Samuel B. Poling was also born in Hocking county, where he was reared and married, and he died at the age of seventy-four years; his widow, who is a native of Maryland, survives him and resides at Ada. Mr. Poling located in Ada in 1881, and engaged in farming near the village.

J. C. Poling was thirteen years of age at the time his parents removed to Hardin county. After attending the public schools he entered the Ada Normal after which he taught school in the county for a period of twelve years, becoming one of the most prominent educators in the county and during those years of school attendance and teaching he obtained his knowledge of engineering. In 1901 Mr. Poling located in Kenton, filling the position of deputy county surveyor for a term of four years, after which he spent three years in abstract and general surveying, and in 1906 he was elected to the office of county surveyor, being reelected in 1908.

Politically Mr. Poling is a stanch Democrat, and has taken a deep interest in the intrests of the party. He is a conscientious, faithful official, who gives his most careful attention to the duties of his office, for which he is well fitted. He is a member of Amicitia Lodge No. 79, of Scioto Encampment, No. 179, and Canton Kenton No. 83, I. O. O. F., and of Lodge No. 157, B. P. O. E. He is considered one of the representative citizens of Kenton, where he is well known and has many friends. He is upright and honorable in all his dealings, and his sterling integrity and probity are unquestioned. On October 30, 1894, Mr. Poling married Lottie Robinson, a daughter of F. M. and Martha (Pemperton) Robinson, natives of Wyandot county, Ohio. Three children have been born to them: Neil R. and James Conwell, students in the high school and Carol E. Both Mr. and Mrs. Poling are members of the First Methodist Episcopal church.

Reverend Henry Katterjohn.—The city of Kenton, Ohio, has some beautiful churches, and one of these which is in a very prosperous condition is the Evangelical church, presided over by Rev. Henry Katterjohn. Mr. Katterjohn was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, October 24, 1869, a son of William and Sophia (Schoer) Katterjohn, both of whom reside in Cincinnati. The father was born in Ladbergen, Germany, where he was reared. He came to America in 1866, locating in Cincinnati. He was a mason by trade. His wife is also a native of Germany, and came to America one year later than her husband; they were married in the city where they now reside.

The early education of Rev. Henry Katterjohn was acquired in his

native city, where he attended high school two years. In 1885 he began studying for the ministry and took a four years' course at Elmhurst College near Chicago, after which he spent three years in a theological seminary at St. Louis. His first charge was at Urbana, Ohio, and after spending four years at Waverly he located in Kenton in April, 1897. His work in Kenton has been very successful, and as a result of the growth and prosperous condition of the church and its finances a fine edifice was erected, which was completed August 16, 1903, at a cost of thirty thousand dollars. This is the handsomest church building in Kenton, and the members and pastor may well be proud of the result of their efforts. Rev. Katterjohn is an able, convincing speaker, and is accorded the fullest affection of his congregation, as well as the esteem and confidence of all with whom he comes in contact. He is a whole-souled, public-spirited citizen, whose life is an inspiration to many.

On November 7, 1904, Rev. Katterjohn married Mary Eccarius Schindewolf, a native of Hardin county, whose parents were early settlers there.

W. H. Lick, city treasurer of Kenton, Ohio, has for years been in the meat market business here and in many other ways identified with the town. He was born in Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, June 9, 1860, and spent the first fourteen years of his life there. Then he went west, visited St. Louis and Kansas City and various points in Iowa and Minnesota, and after five years spent there came to Ohio and took up his residence at Tiffin. In 1887 he came from Tiffin to Kenton and opened a meat market, and here he has since continued in this business, having occupied his present location for twenty-two years. By honest dealing and close personal attention to detail he has met with deserved success, and with the passing years has accumulated a competency. He is a bank director and the owner of farm property, and he has various investments in Kenton.

In 1880, at Tiffin, Ohio, he married Miss Sarah Diemer, of that city, and to them have been given two sons, Karl and Ralph. Mr. Lick is a thirty-second degree Mason and a member of the Mystic Shrine, and he also has membership in the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of Kenton. Politically he is a Democrat, and has always taken an active part in local affairs; was a member of the city council in 1890, and at this writing is city treasurer.

Pearl M. Magly, manager and treasurer of the Kenton Gas & Electric Company, Kenton, Ohio, was born in this city February 9, 1876, a son of J. J. and Mary (Handenschild) Magly. J. J. Magly engaged in the pump business at Kenton, has been identified with this place since 1852, when he came here from Licking county, Ohio, where he was born. He has a family of seven children, Pearl M. being the fifth born and only son.

After receiving a common school education Pearl M. Magly went to work as a bookkeeper and clerk for the Scioto Furniture Company, with which he remained four years. Afterward he was with Harry Gray in

E. A. Stevenson

the grocery business, and later was bookkeeper for Hensel & Snyder. In 1899 he engaged in the coal and tile business, which he continued until 1909, when he became manager of the Kenton Gas & Electric Company, a position he has since held, and since 1907 he has also been treasurer of the company.

Politically Mr. Magly is a stanch Republican, and fraternally, a Mason, having served as master of Latham Lodge from 1906 to 1908, and he has taken the degrees in this ancient and honored order up to and including the commandery. He married, in 1904, Miss Clare Keil, of Lima, Ohio.

Charles A. Stevenson.—Worthy of note in this volume, not only as a native born citizen of Hardin county, but as a veteran of the Civil war, Charles A. Stevenson was for many years an important factor in promoting the agricultural interests of this section of the state, having been prosperously engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1909, when he moved to his present home, lying one and one-half miles south of the Kenton courthouse. He was born, November 17, 1843, in Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, where his father, James Stevenson, was a very early settler. As early as 1822 James Stevenson was living in Champaign county, Ohio, from there moving, in 1827, to Logan county. Settling then near the Hardin county line, he remained there until 1834, when he bought land in Taylor Creek township, which was then a comparative wilderness. Redeeming a farm from the forest, he was there a resident until his death, June 6, 1865. He married Unity New, whose death occurred on the home farm March 10, 1864. Eight sons and four daughters were born of their union, as follows: Silas, Robert, Lace, Jane, William, John, Ephraim, Harriet, Margaret, Charles A., David and Louisa. Six of the sons, Robert, Lace, John, Ephraim, Charles and David served in the Civil war, Ephraim dying while in service.

Attending the district schools and assisting his father on the farm, Charles A. Stevenson remained beneath the parental roof-tree until September, 1864, when he enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Seventy-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Going south, he joined with his regiment the Army of the Cumberland at Nashville, Tennessee, and served until the close of the war, taking an active part in all of the marches, campaigns and battles in which his regiment participated. Returning home after receiving his honorable discharge, Mr. Stevenson rented the home farm for a year, and then, in 1865, bought sixty-five acres of land in Taylor Creek township, a part of which had been cleared and on it a log house and barn had been built. A year later he sold out at an advance, and subsequently rented land for a few years. In 1875 Mr. Stevenson purchased a farm of one hundred and five acres in the southern part of Buck township, and carried on general farming there for twenty-six years. He then sold and bought land on Mt. Victory pike, and was there engaged in his profitable occupation until 1909, when he sold and bought his present attractive home estate near Kenton.

Mr. Stevenson married first, in 1869, Mary S. Richards, who was born in Buck township, a daughter of Leonard Richards. She passed to the higher life in 1895. Mr. Stevenson married for his second wife in 1897 Lyda Rice, a daughter of Thomas Rice, of Taylor Creek township. By his first marriage Mr. Stevenson had four children, namely: Stilla, Ida, Louis E. and Arthur J. Stilla, a farmer, married Mary Lyle. Ida, wife of Charles Royer, has three children. Louis E., also engaged in farming, married Gertie Cahill. Arthur, an electrical engineer, residing in Washington, D. C., married Roda Bartlett. In his political affiliations Mr. Stevenson is a decided Republican. He belongs to Cantwell Post No. 97, Grand Army of the Republic, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, both of his wives belonging also to the same church.

Hon. J. B. Pumphrey, of Goshen township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born in Fayette county, this state, October 25, 1838, and comes of an ancestry that has figured prominently in history. Through his grandmother Pumphrey, whose maiden name was Cromwell, he traces back to Oliver Cromwell of English history fame. Both his maternal and paternal ancestors were among the early settlers of this country. Caleb Pumphrey and his son John W., grandfather and father respectively of J. B. Pumphrey, were natives of Maryland, from whence they came west to Ohio and made settlement among the primitive pioneers of the Western Reserve. John W. Pumphrey was a soldier in the war of 1812 and served as a scout under General Harrison. Previous to that time he spent seven years trading with the Indians, during which period he acquired a knowledge of their language and habits which made him valuable to General Harrison in that war. He was married three times and was the father of seven children, four of whom are deceased. The mother of J. B. Pumphrey was before her marriage Miss Jane Wright, and Fayette county, Ohio, was her native place.

It was in Fayette and Wyandot counties that the subject of our sketch was reared and educated. In early youth he applied himself closely to his studies, to general literature as well as to the text books then in vogue, and, indeed, it may be said of him that he has been a student all his life. When a young man he engaged in the profession of teaching, which he followed for some time, teaching both day and night school and making a specialty of penmanship. When the Civil war came on he left the farm to enter the army. On August 12, 1862, he enlisted as a private in Company A, One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and remained in the government service until the close of the war. After nine months service as a private soldier he was commissioned second lieutenant under Colonel W. T. Wilson and went to the field of action. On June 16, 1863, at the battle of Winchester, Virginia, his entire regiment was captured by General Lee's forces. He was conveyed to Richmond and confined in Libby prison, where he remained until May, 1864. After that date he was changed about to various prisons and finally was lodged in Columbia, North Carolina. While on the road to Columbia he made an attempt to

escape, but failed, and during his confinement at that place he made the second attempt before he was successful in effecting an escape. On this journey he was accompanied by B. F. Blair, adjutant of the One Hundred and Twenty-third Regiment. His imprisonment covered a period of eighteen months, and it was during this time that he was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant, which he held at the close of the war when he was honorably discharged. On reaching his regiment after escaping from the enemy he was placed in direct touch with and under the orders of the war department, his duty being to transport recruits from various points of distribution to the front. In this capacity he served until the close of the war.

On his return to civil life Mr. Pumphrey engaged in farming, which he has followed more or less ever since. Since 1868 he has made his home in Hardin county, and at this writing (1910) he is the owner of two hundred and twenty-four acres of choice farming land, his postoffice address being Kenton. He was for two years cashier of the Citizens Bank of Kenton, and for years much of his time has been devoted to activity in political affairs, he being a stanch Republican. For six years, from 1876 to 1882, he was a county commissioner. He served one term as a state senator; for four years was a member of the state election board and two terms he represented Hardin county in the state legislature, his time in this office expiring in 1909.

Mr. Pumphrey has been married twice. On April 26, 1860, he wedded Miss Adilla Cook, daughter of J. Cook, and the only child of this union died in infancy. This wife having died, he married, January 22, 1903, for his second companion Miss Estella Harding, daughter of T. G. Harding. By her he has one son, James C., born December 9, 1905.

Mr. Pumphrey has long been a member of the Methodist church, in which he is prominent and active. He has been recording secretary of the church for thirty years, and for twenty years he has served as Sunday school superintendent. He is identified with both the Grand Army of the Republic of Kenton, and with the Knights of Pythias at Hepburn, and in all these organizations his influence and substantial support are felt to a marked degree. He is the author of a lecture on "Unwritten History," the income from which, amounting to over seven thousand dollars, has been given to various churches and social bodies, including the Grand Army of the Republic and the Woman's Relief Corps.

Daniel B. Heilman owns and occupies ninety-five acres of valuable farm land situated near the center of Goshen township, Hardin county, Ohio, where he is engaged in general farming. He was born in the township in which he now lives, September 17, 1867, of German descent, and was reared and educated here. His grandparents, John U. Heilman and wife Elizabeth, nee Dreite, were natives of Germany, the former born in 1804, the latter in 1808. They emigrated to this country in 1840, landing at Baltimore. After a few months spent in Pennsylvania they came west to Ohio and settled first in Columbiana county, where they remained until October, 1848. At that time he moved to

Ashland county, purchased sixty acres of land, and lived there until 1861 when they came to Goshen township, Hardin county. Of their seven children, five grew to maturity. While John U. was a shoemaker and worked at his trade his sons carried on farming. On coming to Goshen township he purchased eighty acres of land and a little later forty acres more. Afterward, by the aid of his sons, he bought an additional tract of land comprising one hundred and four acres, and still later, through the aid of his two sons, John U. and Leonard, another tract, thirty-seven acres, was added to the farm. John U. Heilman, the grandfather of our subject, died in 1872, and his widow, in 1880. Their son Leonard, who was born in Germany the same year the family emigrated to this country, 1840, was reared and passed his life in Ohio. In Goshen township, Hardin county, he married Elizabeth Hile, who was born in 1843 in Pleasant township, this county, and they became the parents of nine children, namely: Daniel B., whose name introduces this sketch; Minnie, deceased; William, deceased; Elmer; Samuel, deceased; George; Zona, deceased; and two that died in early infancy. Leonard Heilman died in 1888, his wife in 1880.

Daniel B. Heilman was reared to farm life and has been engaged chiefly in agricultural pursuits. From 1878 to 1884 he operated a threshing machine and was interested in the manufacture of tile. With this exception his attention has been devoted to farming.

On February 23, 1892, Mr. Heilman married Miss Amelia Stoll, who was born in Pleasant township, Hardin county, August 19, 1870, daughter of George and Amelia Stoll. To them have been born eight children: Samuel (deceased), Bryan, Ruah, Calvin, Arlo, John, Freda, and Charles Iber.

Mr. Heilman has always taken a deep interest in local affairs, being a stanch Democrat, and has served efficiently in various public offices. For nine years he has been a member of the school board and, at this writing is a justice of the peace; also he has filled the offices of constable and township supervisor and township treasurer. He is a member of the Grange and of Marseilles Lodge, No. 515, F. and A. M., and he and his family are worthy members of St. John's Evangelical church of Goshen township.

William Yauger, a highly respected citizen of Goshen township, Hardin county, Ohio, is one of the oldest residents of the county. He was born in Marion county, this state, August 7, 1836, a son of Jacob and Charity (Albertson) Yauger, and in that same year was brought to Hardin county by his parents. His father and mother were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Coming to Ohio at an early day they first settled in Marion county. He had entered the land in 1835, and after their removal to Hardin county, Jacob Yauger built a log cabin and in earnest began the work of developing a farm. This primitive log cabin in time gave place to one built of hewed logs, and years later, after the farm came into possession of the subject of this sketch, the present residence was built. In the pioneer community Jacob Yauger was soon recognized as a man of influence and was honored

with official position. For years he served as a justice of the peace and also for a number of years he was treasurer of Goshen township. Religiously he was an old school Baptist, and exemplified in his daily life the teachings of the faith he professed. He died in 1868, his widow, in 1877. They were the parents of eight children, namely: Rebecca, Elem R., Hiram, John, William, Jacob, Joseph and Andrew, and of this number William is the only survivor.

William Yauger grew up on his father's farm, receiving a common school education, and in early life took up the carpenter's trade, a business he followed successfully for a period of thirty years. During the Civil war he was in the government service from March, 1864, until October of that year, employed on work of constructing hospitals and other buildings along the war front. Following in the footsteps of his honored father, he has for years owned and occupied the old home place, and for twenty-seven consecutive years has been a justice of the peace and during the same length of time has been clerk of Goshen township. He is a member of the Grange at Kenton, and has long been prominently identified with the Methodist Episcopal church.

In December, 1863, Mr. Yauger married Miss Joanna Weldon, a native of Champaign county, Ohio, and a daughter of Jesse Weldon. They have five children: Addison, Edward, Sophrona, Jessie and Cora.

Charles W. Taylor, an excellent representative of the native born citizens of Hardin county, is actively identified with the promotion of the agricultural prosperity of this section of the state, being the owner and manager of a fine farming estate in Pleasant township. A son of the late J. W. Taylor, he was born, in 1874, in Dunkirk, where his earlier years were passed. His grandfather, Charles A. Taylor, who was born in Pennsylvania, of Dutch ancestry, was a pioneer settler of Knox county. His wife, Mary A. Taylor, was a native of Ireland. She bore him five children, as follows: Samuel, Caroline, Millie L., Hannah and J. W.

Born and bred in Knox county, J. W. Taylor became a farmer from choice. When a young man he enlisted in Company A, Ninety-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served his country bravely for three years and six months. During that period of service he took an active part in forty-three of the most hardly contested engagements of the Civil war, passing through each battle without a scratch, and at the expiration of his term of enlistment received his honorable discharge from the army. In 1870 he came with his family to Hardin county, and having purchased eighty acres of land in Washington township, he was there employed in tilling the soil until his death, in September, 1908. He married Elizabeth A. Landerbaugh, who was born in Knox county, Ohio, and is now living in Hardin county. Five children were born of their union, namely: Delphia A., wife of E. E. Jones, of Kenton, Ohio; a child that died in infancy; Charles W., the subject of this brief biographical sketch; Jessie P.; and Mae, deceased.

Having completed his early education in the public schools of Dunkirk, Charles W. Taylor accompanied his parents to Washington town-

ship, and while there assisting his father to improve a homestead gained a practical experience in farming methods. In 1904 he purchased his present farm of eighty acres in Pleasant township, and in its management is meeting with well merited success. He takes great interest in stock raising, and is an extensive dealer in fine horses, of which he is a good judge and a superior manager, knowing well how to handle and train them. He is an expert in the art of dehorning cattle, a work in which he has had much experience and is very skillful.

Mr. Taylor married, on February 18, 1893, Arvillie Yoakam, who was born, in 1873, in Allen county, Ohio, a daughter of C. G. and Harriet A. Yoakam, of Dunkirk. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have one child, Pearl E. Taylor. Politically Mr. Taylor is a stanch Republican, and fraternally he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Marcus D. L. Mentzer.—A man of excellent financial and business judgment, enterprising and progressive, Marcus D. L. Mentzer, of Buck township, is connected with one of the leading industries of this part of Hardin county, being ex-president and ex-treasurer of the Mentzer Clay Working Company, of which he is the controlling stockholder. A native of this county, he was born, February 23, 1848, in Kenton, where his father, Samuel Mentzer, was an early and prominent settler.

Samuel Mentzer was born on August 3, 1806. But little is known of his early life. He first visited Kenton, Ohio, in 1834, coming here from Maryland on horseback. The land in this vicinity was covered with timber, and he assisted in clearing the spot on which the courthouse was erected. The following winter he spent in Mansfield, Ohio, but in the spring returned to Kenton, and for two years was here employed in mercantile pursuits. He then took a contract to build a section of the Erie Canal, but the venture proved most unfortunate, and at the end of eighteen months he returned to his home in Kenton, poorer in pocket but richer in experience. He subsequently built a hotel on the northwest corner of the block immediately south of the Square, on the present site of the Kenton Savings Bank. At the end of two years he traded that property for one hundred acres of land on Wolf creek, in Buck township, and one thousand dollars in cash. Having first cleared an opening in the timber, he erected a dwelling house, moved in with his family, and began the improvement of a farm. He succeeded in his undertakings, bought another one hundred and twenty-two acres of adjoining land, and was there employed in tilling the soil until his death, August 10, 1882. He was for many years active in public affairs, serving as township clerk and trustee and as county auditor. Samuel Mentzer was three times married. By his marriage with his first wife, whose maiden name was Susan Lipley, he had three children, David, John and Lydia. By his marriage with Elizabeth Whitman, his second wife, there was one child, who died when small. He married for his third wife Sophia Benjamin, who was born in Athens, Ohio, a daughter of Nathan and Mary (Nulse) Benjamin. Her paternal grandparents settled in New Jersey on coming to this country, from there moving to Pennsylvania, and subsequently locating as pioneers in Muskingum county, Ohio.

M. D. L. Mentzer

Her maternal grandfather, John Nulse, was a Scotchman by birth, and his wife Rebecca Clendennin, was a native of Ireland. Of his union with Sophia Benjamin five children were born and reared, namely: Susan, Mary, Louisa, Marcus D. L. and William M.

Receiving his early education in the pioneer schools of Buck township, Marcus D. L. Mentzer began as a boy to assist his father on the home farm, and at the age of sixteen years assumed its entire management. After his marriage he bought a tract of adjoining land, occupied it a few months, and then returned to the old homestead, and subsequently cared for his parents as long as they lived. He bought of his father fifty acres of land, and after the death of his parents bought the interest of the remaining heirs in the home estate, and still owns the entire tract of two hundred and fourteen acres.

In 1893 Mr. Mentzer began the manufacture of brick tile on his farm, and the enterprise proved so successful that in 1900 he organized the Mentzer Clay Working Company, which bought twenty acres of land of A. P. Snodgrass in Buck township and four acres of P. J. Dodge, and established the present plant, which is described elsewhere in this volume. Mr. Mentzer served as president and treasurer of this company until 1909, when his son George was made president, but Mr. M. D. L. Mentzer is now again the president. He is the largest share holder in the company, owning two-thirds of the stock.

Mr. Mentzer married, in 1870, Rhoda R. Smith, who was born in Anglaize county, Ohio, a daughter of Garland Smith. Three children have blessed their union, namely: Iona, Annie and George A. Iona married Fay Hisey, and has four children, Floy, George, Laura and Theodore. Annie, wife of H. A. Swope, has three children, Maize, Natilla and Esther. Idello died when three years old. George A. married Victoria Kennedy, and they have one child, Helen Louise. Mr. Mentzer has never been out of Hardin county in all his life more than one week. He is a Democrat in politics, and the family are Methodists in religion.

Chester F. Southard, proprietor of a livery and transfer business at Kenton, Ohio, came here when a boy and has since been identified with the town, occupying a representative place among the business men.

Mr. Southard is a native of Union county, Ohio. He was born September 22, 1865, a son of Robert W. and Malinda (Davis) Southard, both natives of that county. During the Civil war his father was three years and six months in the Union army, a member of General Garfield's regiment, Forty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and also of the Knights of Pythias. After the war he engaged in the livery business at West Mansfield, in Union county, where he remained until 1882, when he came to Kenton. Here, in 1883, he opened a livery business, which he conducted from that time until his death, which occurred in 1899, at the age of sixty-one years. His widow is still living and makes her home with their only child, Chester F..

Chester F. Southard was sixteen years old when he came with his

parents to Kenton. He attended the Kenton High School and afterward took a course in commercial law and bookkeeping at Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he graduated in 1887. That same year he became interested in the livery business with his father, continued with him until his death, and has since conducted the business alone, meeting with success in this enterprise and from time to time making investments in other lines, including real estate.

In many ways Mr. Southard had been identified with the best interests of Kenton. He served as councilman from the Second ward and three years he was mayor of the city, elected on the Republican ticket. He is a Mason of the Knight Templar degree and a member of the Elks Lodge, No. 157.

On January 20, 1892, Mr. Southard married Miss Maude Guthrie, daughter of John and Minnie (Houseman) Guthrie, of Dunkirk, Hardin county, Ohio, and they have two daughters, Helen and Ruth. They lost a son, who died in infancy.

George S. Binckley,—One of the highly respected and public-spirited citizens of Kenton, Ohio, is G. S. Binckley, now serving as city clerk. Mr. Binckley is a native of Perry county, Ohio, and son of George W. Binckley, who was a farmer in that county, of which he was himself a native. George W. Binckley was a prominent man in his community, and served twenty-one years as a justice of the peace, also served as county auditor, and took a leading part in public affairs. He spent his declining years in Lancaster, Ohio, where he died at the age of seventy-eight years. He was a life-long Democrat and an honored member of the Masonic order, being a Knight Templar. He was a son of Jacob Binckley, who came from Hagerstown, Maryland, and was of German descent. The latter died in Perry county at the age of forty-three years. George W. Binckley married Adeline Mills, a native of Virginia, of English descent, and she lived to the age of eighty-one years. They became the parents of six daughters and four sons, of whom four daughters and three sons survive. G. S. is the third son and sixth child.

The boyhood days of Mr. Binckley were spent in Perry county and he received a common school training. He received a good education and made the most of his opportunities for the pursuit of knowledge. He taught school about two years, and then located at Kendallville, Indiana, where for several years he worked as a clerk in a general store.

In 1871 Mr. Binckley married Caddie E. Johnson, daughter of L. H. and Eunice J. (Stephens) Johnson, who was born in New York state, and after his marriage he located in New Lexington, Perry county, Ohio, where he was deputy county auditor. In 1873 he removed to Kenton, where he remained a short time and then located in Indiana, where he lived several years, being employed as traveling salesman. In 1878 Mr. Binckley returned to Kenton, and was employed as bookkeeper for the hardware firm of Cantwell & Company, with whom he remained three years. At the end of that time he engaged in the drug business with his brother, Dr. J. W. Binckley, this partnership continu-

ing six years and then Mr. Binckley sold his interest and became associated with the First National Bank as cashier. He is an enterprising, wide-awake business man, possessed of good judgment and high principle, having the entire confidence of all who know him. In 1898 Mr. Binckley was a candidate for probate judge on the Democratic ticket. In 1889 he went into partnership with Thomas J. Cantwell (deceased) in the hardware business, and this continued eleven years. Mr. Binckley was again engaged in the drug business for a time and also worked again as traveling salesman. He was elected to his present office January 1, 1908, and he fulfills the duties of the post with the same careful consideration and attention he has always accorded his private affairs. He is an ardent Democrat, and has performed valuable service in the interests of the party. He is public-spirited and intelligent in understanding the needs of the city, and is interested in every movement for the welfare and progress of the community. Mr. Binckley is well known, and has a large circle of friends. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and of Lodge No. 157, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

George Pfeiffer, a well known farmer of Goshen township, Hardin county, Ohio, is a representative of one of the pioneer families of this county. His grandfather, Michael Pfeiffer, was born in Hesse-Cassel, Germany, in 1783, and emigrated to this country in 1832. In 1835 he bought one hundred and sixty acres of wild land in Goshen township, for which he paid one dollar and fifty cents an acre, and here he spent the rest of his life and died, his death occurring June 5, 1869, at the age of eighty-six years. His wife, Kenitor (Elf) Pfeiffer, died in Germany, May 3, 1837. Their children were Adam, Henry, John A., Peter, Michael, John G., Elizabeth and Barbara. One son, Michael, was a soldier in the Civil war. The son John A. was the father of George. He was born in Germany in 1808, and died in Hardin county in 1876; and his wife, Sophia Pfeiffer, was born in 1811, and died in 1856. Their children in order of birth are as follows: Elizabeth, deceased; John, deceased; Peter, deceased; George, Louis and Adam. John A. Pfeiffer had five hundred acres of land in Goshen township, four hundred of which were improved during his life time.

Here, in 1843, amid pioneer scenes, George Pfeiffer was born, and here he was reared and educated and has always lived. He well remembers when wild game was plentiful in this section of the country and when his father sent him to "drive the deer out of the wheat field." He recalls that at one time he chased seven deer from his father's field. There were also plenty of wolves, bears and wild turkeys. Since 1874 he has owned and occupied his fine farm of two hundred acres. Its commodious and comfortable dwelling, its well constructed out-buildings and its scientifically cultivated fields are all the result of his well-directed efforts.

On April 7, 1870, Mr. Pfeiffer married Miss Mary Hile, daughter of Nicholas and Elizabeth Hile; they have seven children, and at this writing their grandchildren number three. The children in order of

birth are: Ida (Mrs. J. G. Bloom); Nettie; Dora (Mrs. E. J. Carey); Jessie; Charles; Edna (Mrs. Carr); and Elsie. Mrs. Pfeiffer was born in Goshen township, February 12, 1848, one of a family of seven children, as follows: Margaret, Elizabeth (deceased), Daniel (deceased), Mary, Minnie (deceased), George, and John deceased. Their father emigrated to this country from Germany about 1837 and made settlement in Hardin county, Ohio, where he entered one hundred acres of land and bought one hundred and sixty acres more. At the time of his death in 1884 he was the owner of three hundred and eighteen acres. His wife's death occurred in 1875. Mr. Pfeiffer is one of the leading Democrats of this part of Hardin county. He and his family are members of St. John's Evangelical church of Kenton.

Eddie G. Thompson, of Goshen township, Hardin county, Ohio, is a representative of one of the old pioneer families of Hardin county. David Thompson, his great-grandfather, was a Virginian who came west to Ohio in 1832 and settled in Hardin county. In 1834 he purchased a farm of Champness Terry in Goshen township, which has since been in the family, having passed to his son David and later to his grandson, also named David. The first David Thompson married Nancy Anderson, and the children of their union were Ann, Martha, James, John, Jacob and David. Their third born died in infancy, unnamed.

The youngest of the children above named, David, was the grandfather of the subject of this sketch. He was twice married. In 1852 he wedded Margaret Shriner, who bore him nine children: Eleanor, Frank, Anna M., Albert, Henry W., Louis M., Nora, David and James. In 1872 he married Mrs. Mary A. Bates, and three children were born to them: Mary A., George H. and David D., of whom only the last named is living. The father was a soldier in the Civil war, serving as a member of Company A, One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, of which his brother John also was a member. David Thompson had a large tract of land lying in Hardin and Wyandot counties, and at his death left to each of his children eighty acres.

Frank Thompson, the second born of David's children was the father of Eddie G. He was born in Wyandot county, Ohio, January 1, 1856, and died December 8, 1895. He married Miss Harriet James, who was born in Noble county, Ohio, in 1855, and they became the parents of three children: Flora E., Eddie G. and Omer J.

Eddie G. Thompson was born November 9, 1880, in the township in which he now lives, and where he is regarded as one of the practical farmers of his section of the country. He owns and operates eighty acres of choice land, and he is a Republican in politics.

On April 2, 1902, Mr. Thompson married Miss Birtie Hamilton, who was born in Goshen township, Hardin county, September 12, 1886, a daughter of James and Annie Hamilton, and they have three children: Mabel M., James F. and Ray.

Benton K. Jones, M. D., of Kenton, Ohio, was born in Washington township, in the county in which he lives, March 2, 1858, and on his

B. L. Jones M. D.

paternal side is of Welsh descent. His grandfather, John Jones, a native of New Jersey, came to Ohio in the early history of this state and settled in Knox county, where he made his home until 1850, when he moved to Hardin county. Here he spent the closing years of his life, and died at about the age of seventy. The Doctor's great-grandmother Jones was before her marriage a Miss Wolf, she being a cousin of General Wolf, of historic fame. John Morgan Jones, the Doctor's father, was born in Knox county, Ohio, in 1832, and in 1850 came with his father's family to Hardin county. Here he met and married Miss Elizabeth M. Gillen, who was born in New Jersey in 1836 and who had come with her parents from that state to Hardin county, Ohio, the same year the Jones family took up their residence in this county. Her father returned to New Jersey to look after their household goods that had been shipped, and was never again heard of. After their marriage, which occurred in 1855, John Morgan Jones and wife settled on a farm in Washington township where he was engaged in farming until the close of the war, when he moved to Blanchard township to a farm in the southwest corner of the township, where he lived until 1880, when he bought and moved to the Herrick farm in the northeast corner of the township where he lived until within five years of the time of his death, when he retired and moved to Kenton. He died at the age of seventy-five. For a number of years he was a justice of the peace. Religiously he was a Methodist, a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church for many years. His widow is still living. To them were born nine children, two daughters and seven sons, the number including three pairs of twins, namely: Sarah Caroline, who died at the age of seventeen years; Benton K., the subject of this sketch; E. E. and Ella J., twins; Christopher and Charles F., twins; U. O. and A. M., twins; and John M. The last named is now a resident of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Benton K. Jones was reared on his father's farm and received his early training in the district school. When he was seventeen he attended for a time the Kenton school and afterward entered Ada University, now the Ohio Northern University, where he pursued his studies, and still later he went to Cincinnati and took a course in medicine, graduating there in 1888. In the meantime he clerked in a dry goods store in Springfield, Ohio, and taught country school, thus paving his way to professional life. After his graduation, he entered upon the practice of medicine at Kenton, and has since continued here. With the passing years he has kept pace with the progress made in the science of medicine. In 1894 he took a post graduate course in special surgery, in Chicago, and in 1899 a post graduate course in the New York Post Graduate School. While in Cincinnati he took special work on the subject of the eye and ear. Like all up-to-date physicians and surgeons Dr. Jones has identified himself with various medical organizations. He has membership in the N. W. State Medical, the Ohio State Medical, the O. C., E. M. A. and the N. E. Medical Associations. In 1897 he was president of the State Medical Association, and two terms he was coroner of Hardin county.

In 1883 Dr. Jones married Miss Alice M. Fredrick, daughter of

William and Sarah Fredrick of Hardin county. They have two sons and two daughters: William Clay, Paul Frederick, Maude and Marie E. Following in the footsteps of his father, William Clay chose the profession of medicine, and is engaged in practice with his father. He is a graduate of the Kenton High School, the Ohio State University and the P. H. G. M. D., and is a member of the E. M. A.

The senior Dr. Jones is a Knight Templar Mason, an Odd Fellow and a Knight of Pythias.

George Stoll.—The native born citizens of Pleasant township, Hardin county, have no more worthy representative than George Stoll, who holds a noteworthy position among the practical, progressive and business-like farmers who are so ably conducting the extensive agricultural interests of this section of the state. He was born on the farm he now owns and occupies February 21, 1836, in the log house erected by his father, Coonrod Stoll, coming from thrifty German ancestry.

Coonrod Stoll was born, reared and married in Germany. Emigrating to this country in 1833, he came to Ohio in search of cheap land. Locating in Pleasant township, Hardin county, he bought eighty acres of timber land, paying the government price of two dollars and fifty cents an acre for the tract, subsequently working by the day to get the money to pay for it. By means of untiring industry and thrift he succeeded in paying off all of his indebtedness within a comparatively few years, and in course of time had a well improved and productive property. The log house which he built and in which his six older children were born was replaced by a frame building, and good barns and outbuildings were erected. Here he was prosperously employed as a tiller of the soil until his death, in May, 1865. His wife, whose maiden name was Amelia Rader, was born in Germany, and died in Pleasant township, Hardin county, in 1887. Eight children were born of their union, as follows: George; Elizabeth, deceased; Casper; Mary, deceased; Millie, deceased; Eliza; Margaret; and John.

Reared and educated in Pleasant township, George Stoll spent eight years of his earlier life in California, but was not well enough pleased with his prospects of a prosperous future to remain on the Pacific coast. Returning to the scenes of his childhod, he turned his attention to farming, and in due course of time succeeded to the ownership of the parental acres. Devoting his attention to its care, Mr. Stoll has made substantial and essential improvements, the place now comparing favorably in its appointments with any in the vicinity. He is a man of keen foresight and enterprise, and has, evidently, a thorough understanding of the best methods of so conducting his business as to secure the most profitable results. He has made judicious investments and owns in addition to the old homestead two hundred and forty acres of land in Washington township, Hardin county.

Mr. Stoll married, in October, 1869, Amelia Reise, who was born, June 26, 1837, in Kohessen, Germany, and came to this country in 1867. Mr. and Mrs. Stoll are the parents of five children, namely: Amelia, who married G. B. Heilman, has seven children, Samuel, Bryan, Rush,

Calvin, Arlo, Freda and John; Julia, the wife of G. E. Carruthers, has two children, Emma and Alice; Philip married Emma Flinn, and they have two children, William E. and John C.; Mary, deceased; and William, who married Electa Haines, by whom he has one child, Kenneth. John W. Flinn, the father of Mrs. Philip Stoll, enlisted in defense of his country in 1861, becoming a private in the Eighty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and at the end of his term of enlistments re-enlisted, becoming a member of the One Hundred and Sixty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he was associated until the close of the war, taking an active part in many important engagements. He married Catherine Foults. Mr. Stoll and his family are faithful and valued members of Saint John's Evangelical church at Kenton.

Henry W. Scott, one of the successful farmers of Hardin county, Ohio, was born in Warren county, this state, May 25, 1855, a son of Richard and Margaret (Lynn) Scott. When he was five years old his parents moved to Putnam county and settled on a farm, and there Henry W. was reared and received a district-school education. From the time he was seventeen until he was married he worked as a farm hand. Then he rented land for two or three years, after which the father and father-in-law gave to the young couple an eighty-acre tract of timber land. Moving to this place, he directed his energies toward the work of clearing and improving it, and later traded it for one hundred and twenty acres of other land. In the spring of 1892 he moved to Hardin county, where in time he acquired no less than four hundred acres. As his sons have married he has divided with them and assisted them in establishing homes of their own; and he retains two hundred acres, on which he is engaged in general farming and raising hogs and cattle.

Mr. Scott married in 1875 Miss Mary E. Beam, who was born in Putnam county, Ohio, in April, 1857, a daughter of Amos and Mary (Burkhart) Beam, natives of Pennsylvania. To Mr. and Mrs. Scott seven children have been born, namely: Amos, Samuel, Earl, Pearl, Otto, Cloyd and Carrie. Samuel married Miss Maud Witham, Earl married Miss Nora Sheller, Pearl is the wife of Finley Huston, and Otto married Miss Effie Shiveley. The other children are at home.

Mr. Scott and his family are members of the Radical United Brethren church, in which he has served as class leader and trustee. While he has never taken an active part in politics he has always voted conscientiously, supporting the man rather than the party, but has strongly favored the Prohibitionists.

Bernard Dowd, is widely known as a prosperous agriculturist of Pleasant township and is numbered among the citizens of good repute and high standing in Hardin county, where the larger part of his life has been passed. He was born in 1866, in Champaign county, Ohio, a son of the late Thomas Dowd.

Coming with his family from Champaign county, Ohio, to Hardin county in 1866, Thomas Dowd purchased fifty-two acres of wild land,

and in an open space soon erected a log house, which he occupied several years. Working with a well-directed purpose, he subsequently cleared and improved a productive farm, on which he erected substantial buildings, and was there employed in his chosen occupation until his death, in 1884. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Tully, survived him more than a score of years, passing away in 1907. Nine children blessed their union, namely: Maggie; Daniel; Nellie; Mary; Bernard; Anna, deceased; Michael; Jane and Theresa.

Brought by his parents to Hardin county in infancy, Bernard Dowd was here brought up and educated. As a boy he attended the district school, and on the home farm became thoroughly acquainted with the various branches of agriculture. Beginning life for himself, he chose for his life work the occupation to which he had been reared, and in 1899 bought the farm on which he now resides. It contains eighty acres of rich productive land, on which he has valuable improvements, his comfortable residence being tastefully furnished, while his ample barns are well stocked and conveniently arranged. In addition to his home estate Mr. Dowd owns thirty-six acres of choice land in another part of Pleasant township. In his operations he has invariably met with success, his earnest and judicious labors being well rewarded.

Mr. Dowd married, in 1900, Ida C. Bookmyer, who was born at Clyde, Ohio, in 1872, a daughter of John and Harriet Bookmyer, and into their happy household four children have been born, namely; Lawrence, Henrietta, Mary G, and Irma C. Mr. and Mrs. Dowd are genial, agreeable people, enjoying to the utmost the esteem and confidence of their many friends and neighbors, and are worthy members of the Roman Catholic church.

H. J. Scullin, a successful hardware and agricultural implement dealer of Roundhead, Ohio, was born near Bolivar, Tuscarawas county, Ohio, November 6, 1847, a son of Henry and Mary (Smells) Scullin. Henry Scullin was born in Ireland, was a soldier in the queen's army, and was sent to Canada. He came across the line from Canada into the United States at Detroit. He was afterwards married at Akron, Ohio. He finally settled in Zanesville, Ohio, where he died in 1852. He worked in a soap and candle factory. Mr. Scullin was the father of three children, viz: Elizabeth, wife of Hiram Stocker; Margaret, wife of Milton Martin, of Akron, Ohio; and Henry J.

After the death of Henry Scullin his widow married again, and H. J. Scullin remained on the home farm, working through the summer and attending school winters, until the age of sixteen years. On February 24, 1864, he enlisted in Company A, Fifty-first Ohio, and served under Sherman from Chattanooga to Atlanta, then served under General Thomas at Franklin and Nashville. He went to Victoria, Texas, and was mustered out October 3, 1865, being discharged at Columbus, Ohio, November 30, 1865. Returning to his native county, he returned with his stepfather to Anglaize county and worked four years on a farm. He then went to the eastern part of the state and was for a time engaged in mining business.

AUSTIN S. McKITRICK

On August 10, 1870, Mr. Scullin married Mary I. Stewart, and returned to Auglaize county, where he rented a farm. Later he purchased eighteen acres, which he sold and purchased forty acres, which in turn he sold and then bought one hundred acres, which he sold, and then located in Roundhead, on April 10, 1901, buying the corner where he is now located. He engaged in the hardware and implement business, and has built up a good trade. He carries a good stock of goods, and in his business dealings displays good business principles and excellent judgment. He has won the respect and confidence of his fellows, and is well liked. Politically Mr. Scullin is a Republican and served two terms as trustee; he is also serving his second term as township treasurer. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Roundhead and one of its trustees. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Grand Army of the Republic.

Eight children were born to Mr. Scullin and his wife, of whom all survive, namely: Ella, wife of Charles Stokes, of Lima; Maggie, wife of Benjamin Miley, of Wapakoneta, Ohio; Tillie, wife of William Miley, of Roundhead; Henry, unmarried; Howard, who married Blanch Murphy, of Bell Center, Ohio; George, who married Ferne Hobensack, and lives in New Hamsphire, Ohio; Carl, unmarried; and Logan, who married Nellie Smith and lives at Lima, Ohio.

Austin S. McKitrick, M. D.—A physician and surgeon of skill and ability, Austin S. McKitrick, M. D., of Kenton, is widely recognized as one of the leading members of the medical fraternity of Hardin county. A son of Harvey Smith McKitrick, he was born, October 8, 1863, at Plain City, Union county, Ohio, coming on the paternal side from Scotch ancestry, and on the maternal side from substantial New England stock.

His great-grandfather, John McKitrick, is supposed to have been born, reared and married in Scotland. On emigrating to America, he located first in York county, Pennsylvania, and served, it is said, in the Revolutionary war. He subsequently became a pioneer settler of Washington county, Pennsylvania, and there, presumably, spent his remaining days. He was twice married, and reared seven children, one of whom, James, was the next in line of descent.

James McKitrick, born October 22, 1781, in York county, Pennsylvania, was reared to agricultural pursuits, and soon after attaining his majority began life for himself on Virginia soil, settling in that state on land just across the line from Pennsylvania. Migrating to Ohio in 1807, he was one of the first settlers of Newark, where he became a land owner. He afterwards removed to Delaware county, where he resided until his death, in 1874. He married Mary Smith, who was born, in 1786, in Virginia, of German ancestry on her mother's side, and whose parents came to Knox county, Ohio, after her marriage. She died in 1846. Of the twelve children born of their union, eleven grew to years of maturity, married, and reared families.

Harvey S. McKitrick was born in Newark, Ohio, April 23, 1822, and became a farmer from choice. Purchasing land near Plain City, he was there profitably engaged in tilling the soil until his death, when in the

seventieth year of his age. He married Harriet C. Hemenway, who was born in Bridgeport, Vermont, a daughter of Farmary Hemenway, and a descendant in the seventh generation of Ralph Hemenway, of England, her lineage being thus traced: Ralph, Joshua, Ebenezer, Daniel, Daniel, Farmary, and Harriet C. Ralph Hemenway, the emigrant ancestor, was born, it is supposed, in Yorkshire, England, and in 1634 was a resident of Roxbury, Massachusetts, where, on July 5, of that year, he married Elizabeth Hewes. In the records of that town he is mentioned as having been active in public affairs, and in 1638 was recorded as one of the largest landholders and tax payers. His wife's brother, Joshua Hewes, was likewise one of the wealthy men of Roxbury. Ralph Hemenway died in 1678, at a ripe old age. Ralph's son, Joshua Hemenway, born in Roxbury, Massachusetts, in 1644, married for his second wife Mary ————————, of Dorchester, Massachusetts, and soon afterwards moved to Farmingham, Massachusetts, where his death occurred, in 1717, at the age of seventy-three years.

Ebenezer Hemenway, the next in line of descent, born in Framingham, Middlesex county, Massachusetts, in 1681, was as far as known a life-long resident of that town. He married first Hannah Winch, and the line was continued through their son, Daniel Hemenway, who was born, in 1719, in Framingham, and in early manhood settled in Shrewsbury, Worcester county, Massachusetts. He was a carpenter and builder by trade, erected many buildings of note, among them being a church in Shrewsbury, and one in Worcester. He was noted for his patriotism during the Revolutionary war, and was a delegate to the convention that framed the Constitution of Massachusetts. He was one of the patentees of the town of Shoreham, Vermont, and made several visits to that place, and to Bridgeport, Vermont. He died in Shrewsbury, in 1794. Of his union with his first wife, Ruth Bigelow, eight children were born, and by his second union he had one child.

Daniel Hemenway, Jr., the next in line of descent, was born in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, in 1745, being the second son of his parents. He served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and afterwards settled on a farm in Barre, where he spent his last years, and his homestead is still owned by his descendants. In the Revolution, he was a member of Captain Benjamin Nye's company, Colonel Nathan Sparhawk's regiment, in which he enlisted August 21, 1777, and immediately marched to Bennington, Vermont, to reinforce General Stark. He married Mary Carroll, and they reared ten children.

Farmary Hemenway was born in Barre, Worcester county, Massachusetts, March 25, 1786, and when a young man removed to Vermont, where he followed the trade of a miller. Migrating to Ohio in 1833, he settled near Plain City, where he operated a grist mill for many years. He died there in 1867. He was three times married. He married first, in 1810, in Vermont, Rebecca Hemenway, who died the following year, leaving one daughter. He married second Mrs. Mehitable (Rand) Knowlton, a daughter of Jasper Rand, of Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, who served in the Revolutionary war under Captain John Maynard and Colonel Job Cushing, marching with his regiment to Bennington,

Vermont, during the battle there in progress. She died quite awhile before he did, having borne him nine children. He subsequently married a third wife.

Of the union of Harvey S. and Harriet C. (Hennenway) McKitrick five children were reared, namely: Dr. S. C., a physician at Tabor, Iowa, with whom the widowed mother now lives; George L., a miner and rancher in Arizona; Viola Wells Smith of Plain City; Leslie W., engaged in farming near Jerome, Ohio; and Austin S., M. D., of this sketch.

After finishing the course of study in the public schools of Union county, Austin S. McKitrick entered the Ohio Normal University, now the Ohio Northern University, at Ada, where he was graduated with the class of 1886. He subsequently began the study of medicine with Dr. J. E. Herriott, of Jerome, and in 1888 was graduated from the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati. He began the practice of his profession in Cleveland, Ohio, remaining there two years. In 1890 Dr. McKitrick located in Kenton, and later was graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Cleveland. Wishing to further perfect himself in his profession, the doctor took a post graduate course, in 1903, at the Chicago Clinical College. He has made a special study of surgery, becoming especially proficient in this branch of his profession, being not only skillful, but swift and sure.

On April 3, 1889, Dr. McKitrick married May Donaldson, who was born in Greenwich, Huron county, Ohio, April 26, 1866, and had graduated at the Ohio Northern University in 1886. She is a daughter of John H. Donaldson, and a descendant in the sixth generation from one Andrew Donaldson, the founder in America of the family to which she belongs. Andrew Donaldson, the emigrant ancestor, was either a native of Scotland, or was born in Ireland of Scotch ancestry. He was living in the Juniata valley, Pennsylvania, in 1749. He, with other Scotch settlers, refused to pay rents to the proprietors of Pennsylvania on the grounds that they had bought the lands of the Indians. They were warned off, and their cottages burned. They erected new cabins, and held their lands. Moses Donaldson, the next ancestor, owned land in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania. In 1778 his first wife, and two of their children, were massacred by the Indians, who were incited to the deed by English rewards offered for patriot scalps. He married a second wife, and continued his residence in that county until his death. He was a charter member and an elder of the First Presbyterian church at Huntingdon, Pennsylvania.

His son, Andrew Donaldson, the succeeding ancestor, was a lad of eight years when his mother was massacred. He married Rebecca Smart, a daughter of William Smart, of Huntingdon county, and located in Washington county, Pennsylvania. Subsequently coming with his family to Ohio, he settled near Mansfield, Richland county, and there spent his remaining years. Both he and his wife were faithful members of the Presbyterian church.

Joseph Donaldson, Mrs. McKitrick's grandfather, and the next in line of descent, was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, April 4,

1808. He chose the occupation of a farmer, and was engaged in tilling the soil during his active life. He moved, in 1863, to Indiana, and spent his last years near Fort Wayne. He married Sarah Gordon Matthews, a daughter of Rev. William and Mary (Maxwell) Matthews. Her grandfather, Deacon William Matthews, was born in County Down, Ireland, and after coming to America joined the Continental Army, and served three years in the Revolutionary war. He married Rachel Gordon, and settled, in 1804, in Kinsman, Trumbull county, Ohio, where he was a pillar in the Presbyterian church during his remaining years. Rev. William Matthews was the first Presbyterian missionary to the Wyandotte Indians at Upper Sandusky.

John H. Donaldson, Mrs. McKitrick's father, was born, February 24, 1834, in Richland county, Ohio, near Mansfield, was educated at Oberlin College, and while young taught school in Huron and Richland counties, Ohio, and also in Missouri. He subsequently took up farming, and now resides near Greenwich, Huron county. His wife, whose maiden name was Lura P. Barker, was born near Greenwich, Ohio, a daughter of General Daniel G. and Eliza (Baker) Barker, and a descendant in the seventh generation from Richard Barker, who was living in Andover, Massachusetts, in 1643. Stephen Barker, the next in line of descent, was born in 1659, and married Mary Abbott. The line was continued through their son, Zebediah Barker, who was born in 1690, and married Elizabeth Lovejoy. The next in descent was David Barker, born in 1731, who served as a soldier in the Revolution, and afterwards moved to Temple, New Hampshire, where he spent his remaining days. He married Sarah Barker, and the line was continued through their son, Ephraim Foster Barker, who was born in Methuen, Massachusetts, in 1778, and married Hannah Moss, of Boston. He removed from Temple, to Scipio, New York, and from there, in 1819, made an overland journey in the winter season to Ohio, and located in Huron county, becoming the second permanent settler of Greenwich township, that county. He took up wild land near Greenwich, improved a farm, and there resided until his death, in 1860. He was three times married, and reared thirteen children. General Daniel G. Barker, Mrs. McKitrick's grandfather, was born in Temple, New Hampshire, March 17, 1803. He served as a brigadier general in the State Militia. Succeeding to the occupation of his ancestors, he followed farming during his active life in Huron county, Ohio, and died, in 1887, at Greenwich. He married Eliza Baker, who descended from Edward Baker, who, with his wife Joan, sailed in 1630, from Southampton, England, for America, and settled in Lynn, Massachusetts. The next in line of descent, Edward Baker, Jr., married Mary, daughter of Captain Thomas Marshall, and their son, Marshall Baker, married Thankful Ward, a direct descendant of William Ward, who settled in Sudbury, Massachusetts, in 1639, and founded the Massachusetts family to which General Artemas Ward, commander-in-chief of the army, belonged. The next in line of descent was Sherebiah Baker, who served as a minute man in the Revolutionary war, going from Upton, Massachusetts. He married Clotilda Daniels. Their son, Marshall Baker, married Betsey Ward, and among the

children that they reared was Eliza Baker, who became the wife of General Daniel G. Barker. Mrs. McKitrick's mother died April 2, 1897. She reared five children, as follows: Clara R., now a teacher in the Philippine Islands; Joseph D.; Frank D.; May E. McKitrick; and Grace A. Matthews.

Dr. McKitrick and his wife have two children, namely: Donald Kent and Austa. The family are all members of the Church of Christ. Mrs. McKitrick is a member of Fort McArthur Chapter, D. A. R., of which she is a regent, and Dr. McKitrick is a member of Scioto Chapter, S. A. R.

Professor John W. Osborne, is one of the ablest and most prominent educators of Hardin county, Ohio, who has been principal of the Roundhead schools for the past eleven years. Professor Osborne was born in Clinton, Ohio, February 11, 1865, a son of John M. and Christina (Tullis) Osborne. His father was killed in the battle of Franklin before John W. Osborne was born, thus he never knew a father's care or counsel. He was reared on a farm and was educated in the Ohio Soldiers and Sailors Orphan Home at Xenia, remaining there until sixteen years of age. He attended the normal school at Ada, and at the age of nineteen years took up the occupation of teaching. He has continued in this profession constantly ever since, save for one year when he was engaged in service in the Spanish-American war. He enlisted as a private and was mustered out as battalion quartermaster sergeant. Professor Osborne was the first principal of the high schools at Roundhead, and is assisted by two other teachers. He has entire charge of the high school department. He made the most of his opportunities to gain an education, and keeps thoroughly abreast of the times in matters relating to his profession. He is well read and highly cultured, and has made his own way in the world from a very youthful beginning. He was possessed of unusual energy and ambition, and used them to good advantage. Professor Osborne holds a five-year county license.

In 1904 he married Mary Young, and one child has been born to them, Dorothy, born in September, 1908. He is a member of Bell Center Lodge No. 347, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of which he is a past master. Politically he is a Republican and takes a commendable interest in public affairs. Professor Osborne has been an inspiration to those who have been under his charge, and has made his influence count for good. He has the confidence and esteem of his fellows, and is well liked wherever known.

John W. May, who successfully conducts a general store at Roundhead, also owns a good farm in Roundhead township and looks after its interests. He is an enterprising and progressive business man, and pays close attention to his various interests and investments. He was born in Kenton, Ohio, November 19, 1852, a son of James H. and Susan J. (Walker) May. James H. May was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, August 2, 1812, and his wife was born near Charlottesville, Virginia, in April, 1826. The Walker family removed from Virginia to Pickaway county,

Ohio, about 1832. James H. May was a son of John May, who located in Logan county and kept a hotel at Big Springs.

James H. May was married in 1846, and the following year settled in Kenton, where he worked at the trade of a carpenter until 1867, and then located in Roundhead township, near the town, where he carried on farming until death in 1896. He was an earnest member of the Disciple church. He was the father of nine children, of whom four now survive, namely: Mary, wife of Dr. B. B. Potter, of Lancaster, Missouri; John W.; Frank W., who lives on the old homestead in Roundhead township; and Ida R., wife of J. B. South, of Lima, Ohio; Henry, deceased was a soldier in the Spanish-American war, and served as quartermaster and paymaster. He was an attorney of Kenton and represented the Thirteenth district in the Ohio senate in 1887. He died in Texas in May, 1905. A daughter Liddie, is also deceased.

The early days of John W. May were spent on his father's farm, where as soon as he was old enough, he assisted in the work. He was educated in the public schools of Kenton and Roundhead township, and in 1882 entered into partnership with J. E. Mertz and bought out the grocery store of E. J. Short. They remained in partnership twenty-two years, and in 1904 Mr. May bought out his partner's interests, since which time he has conducted the business alone. He also owns a farm of one hundred and seventy-six acres in the township and makes a specialty of stock raising. His business integrity and honesty are widely recognized, and he enjoys a good patronage.

On December 30, 1875, Mr. May married Mary C. Bowdle, daughter of Henry S. Bowdle. She was born in Roundhead township in 1855. To this union three daughters have been born, as follows: Grace, born September 9, 1878, a graduate of the Delaware (Ohio) College; Hazel, born March 23, 1890, a student in the Conservatory of Music at Cincinnati, Ohio; and Ruth, born September 16, 1892, a graduate of the High school at Roundhead. Politically Mr. May is a Republican, although he does not aspire to public office himself. He is well known in Hardin county and has a host of friends.

William F. McGinnis.—Among the successful farmers and stock raisers of Roundhead township is William F. McGinnis, a native of the state of Ohio, born in Perry county March 4, 1853, a son of Moses and Margaret (Work) McGinnis. Mr. McGinnis is the only one now living of the children by his father's first marriage. He came with his parents to Allen county when about eleven years of age, and they located on a farm at West Newton. He lived with his father until twenty-four years of age, attending the country school winters and working on the farm summers.

On February 26, 1876, Mr. McGinnis married Marie E. Smith, who was born in Allen county December 30, 1857, a daughter of Jacob L. and Sarah M. (Crawford) Smith. She was reared in West Newton and attended the graded school at that place. After his marriage Mr. McGinnis rented a farm, and they worked hard to get a start in life. He lived on rented land until 1885, when he purchased a hotel at Alger,

Ohio, and remained there about five years, then sold out and purchased a farm in Marion township, where he remained about five years, then located in Roundhead township. He owns eighty acres of land in section 15, where he carries on general farming and makes a specialty of stock raising. Mr. McGinnis is a member of the United Brethren church of Pleasant Valley, and serves as chorister of the Methodist Episcopal church at Holden, Ohio. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Roundhead. Politically he is a Republican, and has held various township offices. At present he is serving the county as infirmary director; the body meets once a month and attends to the wants of the poor and looks after the poor farm. He is serving his second two-year term in this capacity. He is highly respected in his locality, where he has a large circle of friends. He is honest and industrious, and takes a commendable interest in public affairs, being always ready to support every measure for the public welfare.

Mr. McGinnis and his wife have had children as follows: Myrtle E., wife of Rev. W. E. Childs; Margaret, wife of Orion J. Clinger; Gertrude G., wife of Frederick Hamilton; Fred V., who married Miss Elsie Hinkle; Bennie, Retha and Cordie, and two children deceased, Hazel, who died January 3, 1909, and Victor, who died November 7, 1904.

Albert Moore Jr.—Prominent among the business men and citizens of McDonald township is numbered Albert Moore, Jr., who was born in Franklin county, Ohio, September 17, 1862, a son of Albert and Hannah (Fultz) Moore. The family came to Hardin county about the year of 1871, locating in Taylor Creek township, which was their home for some time, and the parents are now living in McDonald township.

Albert Moore, the son, was the third born of his parents seven children, and he has been identified with agricultural pursuits since leaving the district schools at the age of seventeen. At the age of twenty-one, in 1883, he was married to Callie Ampsler, who was born and reared in Hardin county. They began their married life with comparatively nothing of this world's goods, and Mr. Moore rented his father's farm for some time, then going in debt for a place. But success has crowned his well directed efforts, and he now owns a good estate of six hundred and twelve acres in McDonald township, which represents the accumulation of many years of hard and persistent labor. He is engaged very extensively in growing and shipping onions, shipping about two hundred car loads of this product yearly to the best markets of the country, and besides he is also a well known breeder of good stock, hogs, sheep and horses. He is a Republican voter, and is quite prominent in the politics of his township and county.

Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Moore, namely: Effie, Lydia, Callie and Anna. The eldest daughter is the wife of Carl Batchlett, of McDonald township. Mr. and Mrs. Moore and their family are members of the Mt. Zion Methodist Episcopal church of McDonald township.

George Jameson.—Attorney George Jameson was born in Wayne county, Ohio, November 15, 1838. After leaving the common schools he attended Vermilion Institute in Ashland county and Kenyon College, and graduated from the Law Department of Michigan University in 1867. He was admitted to the bar by the supreme court of Ohio, and practiced law successfully at Lima, Ohio, for sixteen years, and besides prosecuting an active law practice he performed his full share in improving the city of Lima, having developed and laid out Jameson's two beautiful additions to that city and which constitute now the beautiful west end, filled with fine homes and constituting by far the most beautiful residence part of the city. He was the pioneer street railway man of Lima. He organized the original Lima Street Railway Company and served as its president until he left the city. In 1883, on account of the unfavorable condition of his health, he sold his interests in Lima, including his beautiful home which he sold to Dr. Baxter, and invested in lands near Dola in Hardin county, where he developed a large farm and made a beautiful home where, with his estimable wife, he resided until her death in 1899.

When twenty-two years of age Mr. Jameson had married Mary E. McClure, the sweetheart of his boyhood and of his after life, a most excellent and beautiful Christian woman, to whom he was very greatly devoted and with whom he lived most happily for nearly forty years. Her death has greatly saddened his life, and being left with no one but employes he opened a law office at Ada in order to be near his only child, Charles E. Jameson, to whom with his family he is very much attached. During the Civil war he entered the army as a private, but was promoted to first sergeant and afterward became captain of his company. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, and a Republican in politics, but in both religion and politics he is very liberal toward the sincere and reasonable opinions of others. He has always been opposed to the saloons and the liquor traffic, and he did his full share in eradicating them from Ada and from the township and the county. He is an industrious, careful lawyer of long experience, who aims to always give good, faithful, safe and honest counsel and service to all who employ him.

Charles E. Jameson, son of George and Mary E. Jameson, was born in Wayne county, Ohio, April 8, 1866, and received his education in the Lima, Ohio, schools and the Ohio State University. He married Elma I. Sanford, and they reside in their country home three miles east of Ada. They operate their farm of four hundred acres of very rich and valuable land, and educate their sons at Ada. They have six sons, Edwin, Cloyd, Sinclair, Sanford, Walter and Robert.

Cadwallader Wallace.—The agricultural interests of Hardin county find an able representative in Cadwallader Wallace, who owns a valuable estate in McDonald township, and is prominently known both as a farmer and stock raiser. He was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, January 24, 1855, a son of Neacma and Maria Wallace, both also natives of this commonwealth, the father of Ross county and the mother of Franklin county. The son was reared in his native city of Chillico-

Chas. E. Jameson

MRS. CHARLES E. JAMESON

George Jameson.

MRS. GEORGE JAMESON

the, attending a private school there, and leaving there in 1882 he came to Hardin county, where his father had given him three hundred and seventy-six acres of land in McDonald township. This, however, was heavily wooded land at that time, but with the passing years Mr. Wallace has cleared it and made it one of the valuable estates of the township. He follows a general line of farming and is engaged very extensively in the raising of fine stock, including Percheron horses, Duroc hogs and Holstein cattle. He is also an active political worker in county and state politics, and was at one time the nominee of his party, the Democratic, for the office of commissioner.

In 1876 Mr. Wallace was married to Louella Reed, also born in the city of Chillicothe, and they became the parents of the following four children: Harry R., who married Ethel Fullilove, and is filling a clerical position at McGuffey, Ohio; Nellie, the wife of Norman Williams, of Taylor Creek township; George, who married Edith McKafty; and Jean, in the parental home. Mrs. Wallace died in 1896, and Mr. Wallace subsequently married Alice Fields, a daughter of the Rev. John Fields of Ada, Ohio, and the only child of that union died at the age of thirteen months. Mr. Wallace is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity at Kenton.

JOHN DILLON.—The substantial and well-to-do residents of Hardin county have no more worthy representative than John Dillon, of Roundhead, who ranks high among the keen, progressive and skillful farmers who have so actively assisted in developing the agricultural interests of this part of the state. A son of John S. Dillon, he was born, August 4, 1844, in Logan county, Ohio. John S. Dillon was born, September 19, 1814, in Clark county, Ohio, of pioneer ancestry, and was there brought up and educated. He subsequently moved to Logan county, and was there engaged in general farming until his death in 1887. His wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Martin, was born, August 9, 1817, in Highland county, Ohio. Of the children born of their union three sons served in the Civil war, Isaac, Thomas and John.

Having completed the course of study in the public schools of his native county, John Dillon naturally turned his attention to the independent pursuit with which he was most familiar, becoming a most successful farmer. Locating near Jumbo, Hardin county, in 1866, he lived there thirteen years, after which he spent two years in Logan county. Returning to Hardin county in 1881, he took up his residence in McDonald township, where he continued as one of its foremost agriculturists until 1909, when he moved to his attractive home in Roundhead. When the Civil war was in progress Mr. Dillon enlisted for a period of three years in Company I, Fifty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, but was sent home owing to his youth, although he afterwards re-enlisted, becoming a member of Company F, One Hundred and Thirty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and at the end of his term of enlistment, one hundred days, was honorably discharged at Camp Chase. During his service in the army he participated in several engagements

of importance, including the battle of Richmond, the three days siege of Petersburg and the battle of Chattanooga.

Mr. Dillon married, February 16, 1866, Nerva Helpenstein, a daughter of Simeon and Elizabeth (Heath) Helpenstein, and to them six children were born, namely: Simeon, residing at Silver Creek, married Bertha Grundy, and they have one child, Lizzie; Emma, wife of James Taylor, of Lima, Ohio, has three children, Mary, Homer and one other; Marietta, wife of Amos Wheeler, of Foraker, Ohio, has three children, George, Homer and one other; Annie, wife of Robert Low, of Kenton, has one child, Ethel; George E., of Roundhead township, married Aggie Stout, and they have one child, Emerson; and a child that died in infancy. Mr. Dillon's first wife died January 28, 1884. He married on March 28, 1896, Mary Jane Hoon, daughter of George and Sarah Hoon, of McDonald township. Politically Mr. Dillon uniformly casts his vote for the Republican candidate for office. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and for upwards of sixteen years he has belonged to the Grand Army of the Republic. Religiously he is a faithful member of the Christian church.

Arthur Clifton Levally.—Prominent among the agriculturists and business men of Taylor Creek township is numbered Arthur Clifton Levally, who was born in Logan county, Ohio, September 2, 1866, a son of George William, a grandson on the paternal side of James Jefferson and a great-grandson of George Levally. This last named ancestor came to America during the war of 1812 and he afterward settled in Logan county, Ohio, the birthplace of his son, James Jefferson Levally. The latter married Emeline Wilklow and died in 1901, when seventy-five years of age. George William Levally born in Logan county, Ohio, in 1843, died in the year of 1889, when forty-six years of age. After leaving the school room he farmed and studied law at Ridgeway, and being admitted to the bar in 1880 he was afterward in practice in that city until his death. He was a Democrat in his political affiliations, and he served both as a justice of the peace and as a constable in Logan county. He married Mary Anna Milner, who yet survives him and has attained the age of sixty-eight years. She is a daughter of Joseph Milner, from Logan county, and of Mary (Hines) Milner, his wife. George W. Levally served three years as a soldier in the Civil war, enlisting in 1861. The children born to him and his wife are: James Jefferson, of Logan county; William Burtis whose home is in Wood county; Guy Carleton, also of Logan county; Anna, who is teaching school in Ridgeway; and Cora May, wife of Charles Tapp, of Taylor Creek township.

Arthur C. Levally, also of the above family, after leaving the school room farmed with his father until twenty-eight, and he then married and farmed for two years near Silver Creek, was then four years on the old Nash farm in Taylor Creek township, two years in Logan county, a similar period in Union county, and he then came to his present farm of seventy acres in Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, and engaged in farming and stock raising. Mr. Levally is an influential Democratic

worker of his township, and while in Logan county he served two terms as a constable and is now serving his second term as the constable of Taylor Creek township, elected first in 1907.

In December of 1894 he was married to Nettie Smith, who was born September 18, 1873, in Logan county, a daughter of Jonathan and Mary (Wambaugh) Smith. The mother is a daughter of Paul and Hannah (Ross) Wambaugh, the former born in Hamilton county, Ohio, December 22, 1818, and died in 1868, and the latter, born April 13, 1825, died in 1855. Jonathan Smith, born on the 23d of March, 1851, is a son of William and Malinda E. (Bonnell) Smith. William Smith was born in southern Ohio and died on the 24th of August, 1876, when fifty-eight years of age, and Malinda, his wife, born February 19, 1820, died in 1896. The Smith family settled in Logan county, Ohio, many years ago, later moving to Delaware county, this state, and in 1873 Jonathan Smith and his wife came to Taylor Creek township in Hardin county and homesteaded their present farm there. Mrs. Levally is one of their eight children, the others being: Eber Smith, a Dudley township farmer; Frank Smith, living in Taylor Creek township; Charles Smith, a resident of Hale township; Fenton Smith, farming in Logan county; Everett Smith, on the home farm; Iva, wife of Seigle Williams; and Grace, wife of Orville Oglesbee, of Kenton. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Levally, namely: Eva, who died in infancy; Omah, born December 4, 1898; Kenneth, born October 13, 1900; Herbert, born May 21, 1908; and Anna May, born in January, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Levally are members of the Christian church.

Hon. Frank Given is one of the representative men of Hardin county. He has proved a valued factor in its political councils, and represents one of its honored pioneer families. He was born in McDonald township on the 28th of April, 1846, a son of Alexander and Mary (Campbell) Given and a grandson on the paternal side of William Given, who was born in Maryland and was of Scotch descent. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and he died in Hardin county, Ohio, in 1848. Alexander Given, born in Ross county, Ohio, March 14, 1811, became one of the prominent characters of McDonald township, Hardin county. He served for many years as a justice of the peace, also as the clerk and treasurer of McDonald township, and he died in the year of 1895. The Campbell family were among the pioneers of Ross county and became residents of Hardin county prior to its organization. Daniel Campbell was the first recorder of Hardin county, and later served as one of its associate judges. He was a prominent worker in the local ranks of the Republican party. He died in 1864.

The Hon. Frank Given received a common school training in his early youth, and this fitted him for a teacher, which continued as his work during two or three terms. He moved to Roundhead township in the spring of 1865. He served as a justice of the peace, as treasurer and as clerk of Roundhead township, and in 1893 he was elected a probate judge on the Republican ticket, and was returned to the office in the following election of 1896, thus remaining the incumbent of that

office for six years. At the expiration of this incumbency the judge returned to his farm in Roundhead township. He owns a splendid farm of two hundred and ten acres, located in both Roundhead and McDonald townships, and is actively engaged in general agricultural pursuits. He is a member of Bell Center Lodge, No. 347, A. F. & A. M., and is also associated with Kenton Chapter, R. A. M., and with Kenton Commandery, No. 58, K. T. and is a Knight of Pythias, belonging to the lodge at Roundhead.

In 1865 he was united in marriage with Eliza I. Marmon, a native daughter of Hardin county and one of its former educators. She became the mother of the following seven children: Walter C., Anna M., Boyd and Moses (twins), Eva B., Robert A. and Franklin. Mrs. Given died in March, 1880, and in January of 1882 Judge Given married Malinda Slaybaugh, by whom he had the following four children: Ada E., Mary C., Lewis F. and Gertrude M., all now living with the exception of the daughter Mary. Ada E. is the wife of C. C. Thomas, and they are living on the farm with her father. The second Mrs. Given is also deceased, her demise occurring in March of 1906. Judge Given is a member of the Methodist Protestant denomination at Hinkle Chapel, and is a member of the board of trustees of his church.

JOHN P. RICHARDS.—The development of Hardin county from a dense wilderness to a rich agricultural region has been a labor of years, and largely performed by men of brain and brawn, skilled in the use of tools of all kinds, and especially thorough in their knowledge of agriculture. Noteworthy among this number is John P. Richards, a venerable and highly esteemed resident of Buck township, who has here been engaged in his honorable and pleasant occupation for upwards of half a century. A son of Rev. James Richards, he was born, February 27, 1827, in Seneca county, Ohio, coming from excellent New England ancestry.

His grandfather, John Richards, was born and reared in New Hampshire, and as a young man served in the Revolutionary war. He subsequently returned to his old home among the New England hills, and for a number of years owned and operated a flour mill, continuing his residence there until his death.

Rev. James Richards was born and reared among the invigorating breezes of the New England states, in New Hampshire. With the spirit of enterprise that is essentially American in character, he longed as a young man to try the hazard of new fortunes, and, with no capital to start with, journeyed westward on foot, stopping occasionally in some large place to earn a little spending money, continuing on his way until he arrived in Seneca township. He was one of the original settlers of that locality, Indians and the wild beasts of the forest being then plentiful. Buying a tract of land on the Sandusky river, ten miles south of Tiffin, he built a log cabin, and cleared a portion of the tract. Selling out in 1829, he, with his wife and five children, moved to Pike county, making the journey there with a team, and taking along all of their worldly goods. A few years later he settled on rented land

JAMES RICHARDS

MATILDA RICHARDS

SARAH M. HARBISON

in Ross county, where he was soon licensed as an exhorter by James B. Findley. He was subsequently licensed as a preacher by Bishop Soule, and for many years thereafter was active in the ministry, preaching in various counties, and making many conversions. Coming to Hardin county in 1848, he spent his last years in the family of his son, John P., passing away at the age of seventy-seven years. He married Matilda Perrel, who was born in Virginia, a daughter of John Perrel. She lived to the age of seventy-five years. She reared eight children, as follows; Leonard, Minerva, Sarah, John P., Esther, Jephtha, Harriet, and Frank.

Beginning life as a wage-earner as soon as old enough, John P. Richards began working by the day or month, and continued until twenty-four years of age to be thus employed. Renting land then in Pleasant township, he resided there three years, and then settled in Buck township, on the farm which he now owns and occupies, at once assuming possession of the log cabin standing among the trees. But ten acres of the land had then been cleared, but he has since cleared the remainder, and has made improvements of an excellent character on the place, including among others the erection of a substantial set of frame buildings.

Mr. Richards married, in 1851, Sarah M. Harbison, who was born in South Carolina, September 18, 1832. Her father, Matthew Harbison, a native of North Carolina, went to South Carolina when young, and lived there until 1834. In that year, accompanied by his wife and five children, he came with a colony from his neighborhood to Ohio, making an overland trip with teams. His wife rode on horseback, bringing Mrs. Richards, then an infant, in her lap. He and his family lived in Greene county until 1842, and then came to Hardin county, locating in Pleasant township, and there living with his sons until his death, at the age of fifty-seven years. His wife, whose maiden name was Sarah McCoy, was born in South Carolina, and died, in Hardin county, Ohio, in the ninety-fourth year of her age in 1894.

Mr. and Mrs. Richards have one son, Marion F. Richards. He married Viola Butler, and they have five children, Neva, John P., Earl, Hazel, and Carl. Neva married Horace Latimer, and they are the parents of three children, Ruby, Cleo, and Pauline. John P. married Ada Overly and they have two children, John C. and Evelyn. Earl married Rebecca Bishop and they have one child, Anna Belle. Mr. Richards was converted, and joined the Methodist Episcopal church, when he was twelve years old, and Mrs. Richards united with the same church when she was twenty-six years of age. Both Mr. and Mrs. Richards enjoy good health.

Hugh E. Pearce.—Among the men who have acquired success in Kenton, Ohio, is Hugh E. Pearce, a life-long resident of the city, born there December 20, 1870. He is an enterprising, representative citizen, and is now engaged in real estate and insurance business. Mr. Pearce is a son of John M. and Mary E. (Whitney) Pearce; the former, a native of Bedford, Massachusetts, was reared and partly educated in his

native town. John M. Pearce came with his father, Benjamin Pearce, also a native of Massachusetts, to Cleveland, Ohio, where he attended school for a time and then entered the University of Michigan, from which he was graduated. Benjamin Pearce practiced dentistry some years in Cleveland, and spent his last ten years in Kenton, Ohio. John M. Pearce was connected with the Pennsylvania railroad, and upon settling in Kenton, about 1868, was elected county clerk, holding the office about four years. He was a life-long Democrat and took an active interest in public affairs. He was a Mason, and had a wide circle of friends. His wife was a daughter of Dr. Benjamin Whitney, of Mansfield, Ohio. John M. Pearce and his wife were parents of five children, of whom Hugh E. is the youngest.

The boyhood days of Hugh E. Pearce were spent in Kenton, where he received his education, and when a young man began his business career as bookkeeper for the Champion Iron Company, of Kenton, where he remained seven years. He later became manager of the American Straw Board Company, at Kenton and Middletown, Ohio, which position he held about four years. His father died in February, 1899, and he succeeded to his real estate business.

Mr. Pearce is well known in the community, and enjoys universal respect and esteem. He is a stanch Democrat and takes an active interest in public affairs; he is at the time secretary of the county board of elections. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 157, of the Knights of Pythias, the Sons of the American Revolution and the Modern Woodmen.

William Alvin Belt, M. D.— In the annals of Hardin county the name of William A. Belt, M. D., stands prominent, not only in the medical world but in business, literary, social, political and fraternal circles, in each of which he is influential and popular. As one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Kenton, he has built up one of the best medical practices in the city, his professional knowledge, skill and ability being recognized throughout the community. He was born April 23, 1863, in Wapakoneta, Auglaize county, Ohio, oldest child of Rev. LeRoy A. Belt, D. D., and Rachel Burgett Belt. His boyhood was passed in Ottawa, Bellefontaine, Marion and Toledo, Ohio. From the high school of the latter city he graduated at sixteen.

In 1884, after completing a university course and taking preparatory medicine, he was graduated from the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, with the degree of B. S. Four years afterward, having complied with the requirements, the post-graduate degree of M. S. was conferred. In 1886, completing his medical course, he was graduated from the Medical College of Ohio at Cincinnati, now the medical department of the University of Cincinnati.

In 1887 the doctor was married to Alba Webster at Kenton, Ohio, who died twelve years afterward, leaving two children, LeRoy Lorin, who is now in the Ohio Wesleyan University and Rachel A., now in Kenton high school.

Dr. Belt holds a place of prominence in the Masonic fraternity with

which he has been officially connected in many ways for many years, and in 1902 and 1903 was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, and has since served on its various committees. In 1906 and 1907, as chairman of the ritual committee, the Doctor re-edited the Ritual of Masonry for Ohio, and he has the distinction of being one of the five men chosen to write the "History of the Masonic Order in Ohio for the Past One Hundred Years," the first volume of which is now, in 1910, out of press, and will be of great interest and benefit to the Masons throughout the United States, but more especially to the Grand Lodge of this state and Ohio Masons. In 1909 Dr. Belt was chosen and received at Boston the thirty-third and last degree in Masonry, being the first man in the history of Hardin county to receive this honor.

Very active in politics, Dr. Belt is one of the prominent members of the Republican party, and from 1898 until 1900 served on the Ohio Centennial Board of Commissioners, being appointed by Governor Bushnell to represent the Eighth Congressional District. For two years he was chairman of the county Republican executive committee. He is now a member of the state Republican executive committee. He was a member of the Kenton School Board for eight years, and for ten years was a member of the Board of Trustees for the Ohio Northern University from 1897 until 1907, serving also as their secretary, when he resigned the position. On February 22, 1908, when the Delta Kappa Epsilon literary fraternity was established at his alma mater the Doctor received the honorary degree of D. K. E., his standing in his studies throughout his college course having been above ninety. The Doctor holds membership in Hardin county, North Western Ohio, the Ohio and the American Medical Societies.

Dr. Belt married, June 6, 1901, Barbara H. Garst of Greenville, Darke county, Ohio, and they have one son William Alvin, Jr. born July 13, 1903. In 1900, the Doctor took a trip abroad, visiting while away many places of historical interest, and the principal hospitals of the various European countries, including England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Belgium and Holland.

Thomas Yearsley, deceased, one of the oldest settlers of Taylor township, Union county, Ohio, lived for many years near Broadway. He was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania, December 23, 1819, son of Thomas and Sarah Yearsley. Thomas Yearsley Sr. was also a native of Chester county, Pennsylvania, born August 23, 1790; Sarah, his first wife, was also born there, October 9, 1789, and died in the same place, March 17, 1834. He remained a widower until January 6, 1836, when he was united in marriage with Mary Hawley. In 1853 Mr. Yearsley removed, with his wife and three of his youngest children, to Union county, Ohio, and June 28, 1854, he died, being in his sixty-fourth year. His widow survived him some time, and passed away July 18, 1870.

In 1849 Thomas Yearsley Jr. removed to Ohio, settling near Broadway, Union county, on a farm, where he lived until his decease, in

August, 1895. He married, October 18, 1860, Sarah Greene, a native of New York, born August 3, 1833. Mr. Yearsley became a successful farmer, and before engaging in this occupation spent some time in teaching, and also clerked in a store. He had acquired a good education and was a progressive farmer, at the time of his death owning one hundred and seventy-six acres of land, in a high state of cultivation. He was well known and highly respected in the community, and for some time held the office of trustee of Taylor township. Mr. Yearsley and his wife became parents of seven children, of whom the following five survive: Alben, Joseph, Ada, Burton and Emma. Mrs. Yearsley formerly belonged to the Christian church but later joined the Free-will Baptist church. Mr. Yearsley was a man of influence, and had many friends; his loss was deeply felt, and he was widely mourned.

Douglas Poe.—One of the prominent and successful farmers and stockmen of Hardin county, Ohio, is Douglas Poe, who owns land in Roundhead and McDonald townships. Mr. Poe was born in Roundhead township, January 16, 1856, and is a son of Andrew and Lavina (Zimmerman) Poe. Andrew Poe, a native of Pickaway county, Ohio, was born May 1, 1816, and was a son of David Poe, a native of Kentucky, who settled in Ohio in 1812. David Poe was one of the pioneers of Ohio, and removed from one place to another in search of a suitable location; finally in 1830, he located in McDonald township, Hardin county, where he cleared and improved a farm of two hundred acres, where he lived until the death of his wife, after which he spent the remainder of his life in Roundhead township. He married Elizabeth Ritchey, a native of Ireland, who was brought to the United States when she was a year old. To this union twelve children were born.

Andrew Poe married Lavina Zimmerman February 11, 1837; she was a native of Ross county, Ohio. Mr. Poe was a prosperous farmer and became the owner of some five hundred and fifty acres of land. He died April 26, 1905, and his wife died May 26, 1895. They were parents of the following children: William, Milton, Ann M., Genova, Samantha, David and Douglas. Mr. Poe was a member of the Methodist Protestant church.

The boyhood of Douglas Poe was spent in Roundhead township, and when old enough he began to assist in the work of the farm. He attended school winters until he was eighteen years of age and then devoted his entire attention to farming. He has been very successful and now owns three hundred and twenty-three acres in his farm, where he carries on general farming and pays special attention to stock-raising. He has always looked carefully after his interests and has been amply rewarded by the results of his labor.

Politically Mr. Poe is a Democrat, though he has never cared for public office. He married, December 9, 1891, Anna Borders, who is a native of Hardin county, born in McDonald township, December 3, 1858, and they became parents of three children, namely: Birdie, born April 2, 1896; Leah, June 18, 1900, and Tena, born June 18, 1900, died in August, 1900.

Cyrus McGaffey M. E. McGaffey

Mr. Poe and his wife are members of the Methodist Protestant church of Hinkle chapel.

Cyrus McGuffey was born in Columbus, Franklin county, Ohio, January 15, 1834, a son of John and Parmelia McGuffey, both also born in the commonwealth. It was John McGuffey and sons that conceived the idea of draining the great Scioto Marsh. The lands lying on the north and east of the Scioto river were Congress and Military lands and were sold to whoever would buy them at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. When the lands that could be disposed of at that price were all sold there remained an extensive tract of swamp lands that the government was unable to sell. This land was regarded as absolutely worthless and was considered impossible to drain. The government then ceded these lands to the state. The state in turn to the county. At the time the state turned these swamp lands over to the county a law was passed directing how they were to be disposed of. The county commissioners were to advertise for bidders to do a certain amount of ditching under the direction of the commissioners and engineer. The contractors were to receive for their work land at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre.

This land was advertised for several years without any one bidding on it. Finally John McGuffey heard of it and came up from Columbus, looked the land over and concluded that it could be drained. He then put in a bid and got the contract and went ahead and did a sufficient amount of work to obtain four thousand five hundred acres of this land. This was done in the years 1858-9 under the direction of Mr. Rough, Mr. Woods, and Mr. Marsh, county commissioners at that time and to their entire satisfaction as they themselves expressed it. The prime object of this work was to get this land on the tax duplicate and thus help bear the burdens of taxation.

This then was the entering wedge toward reclaiming this section from the snakes, frogs and mosquitoes and we believe that the McGuffey family should receive the proper credit that their efforts merit in thus starting a reclamation project that has been the means of developing the most productive section of Hardin county, a section that today is noted for its good roads fine homes and fertile farms, and realizes enormous sums of money from the sale of its products.

After acquiring this land the great Civil war broke out and thus delayed and frustrated the original plans of reclamation. This land was held for some twenty years and then the four thousand five hundred acres was sold to a syndicate of capitalists for six dollars per acre.

In the meantime John McGuffey purchased some two thousand acres at prices ranging from three to twelve dollars per acre and it was this land that was deeded to his heirs and at present is still largely owned by them. His two sons, Richard C. and Cyrus were actively engaged with their father in the work from the beginning. Richard C. moving to Hardin county in November, 1863, and died March 22, 1870. Cyrus and wife moving there in April 1864.

Cyrus McGuffey was educated in the public schools of Franklin

county, then at the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware for two years and completed his educational training at the Ohio University at Athens. On October 25, 1859, he married Marinda Patterson, daughter of Thomas and Marinda (Codner) Patterson a native daughter of Franklin county, and a student for some time at the Worthington Female College. Four years after marriage they took up their abode in Hardin county and lived in this county until 1884. In March of that year they removed to Miami county, Indiana, living there for six years. In 1890 they returned to Hardin county and were residents of this county until the death of Cyrus McGuffey on June 7, 1906.

Cyrus McGuffey was ever modest and unassuming but honored and respected by all who knew him and in his death Hardin county lost one of her representative citizens and business men. In his home life he was always gentle and kindly considerate of the wishes of others and would sacrifice his own pleasures for the benefit of others. He was a man of strong mind and always strove to do good and to live up to a high standard of truth, virtue and absolute honesty. His widow still survives him and together with her son lives on the home farm.

William Cyrus McGuffey was the only son born to Cyrus and Miranda McGuffey and was born March 11, 1872. When twelve years of age he removed with his parents to Miami county, Indiana. After living there for six years he returned with his parents to Hardin county where he still resides. His early education was received at Rising Sun school in Marion township, Hardin county, later graduating from the high school at Gilead, Indiana. He then attended school at the Ohio Northern University at Ada and studied for awhile at the Ohio State University at Columbus.

After leaving school he engaged with his father in the produce business under the firm name of Cyrus McGuffey & Son. Since the death of his father he still conducts the business under the firm name. While doing general farming their specialties are onions and potatoes; large quantities of which are grown and shipped to any section of the country that wants them. At present their leader is upland grown White Globe onions. Mr. McGuffey grew the first upland onions that were grown in a commercial way in this county. The popular belief being that it required a muck soil to successfully grow that crop This enterprise was begun some five years ago and today the upland grown onions are a great factor in the onion deal.

The home farm where W. C. McGuffey lives is located about one quarter mile north of McGuffey, Ohio. This farm until 1892 was practically a wilderness. The larger timber had been removed and the land had grown up in brush until that time when the clearing up of this farm began. The work was pushed steadily until the sixty acres then owned was all cleared. In 1900 the north half of the present farm was purchased from Clemuel R. McGuffey and it in turn cleared. This farm today is one of the best improved farms and the residence of Mr. McGuffey is one of the finest in the county. He is a man of splendid business ability and good judgment and acumen and is generally successful in his undertakings. His honesty and probity are unquestioned and he merits and retains the confidence of his fellows.

RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM C. McGUFFEY

Wm. C. McGuffey

On November 28, 1894, W. C. McGuffey was united in marriage to Myrtie J. Guider, daughter of Carl A. and Marilla A. Guider. Two children have been born of this union, Cyrus Carl, born January 5, 1896, and Eunice A., born September 1, 1898. Mr. McGuffey is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, the United Commercial Travelers and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Kenton. In national politics he is a supporter of the Democratic party, but in local affairs votes for the men rather than the party, choosing the men he considers best fitted to fill the office in question.

James V. Hill.—Among the most influential and substantial residents of Roundhead township, Hardin county, Ohio, is James V. Hill, who carries on farming and stock-raising to a considerable extent. He has other interests outside his farm, is a successful business man, of sound judgment and intelligence, and interested in the cause of progress. Mr. Hill was born December 15, 1875, son of James R. and Elizabeth (Goslee) Hill. He is the oldest child living by his father's second marriage, and was reared in Roundhead township, of which he is a native. He lived on his father's farm and attended the district school winters, working on the farm through the summer, until he was sixteen years of age, since which he has given his entire time and attention to his business affairs, farming, buying and selling stock, etc. He remained at home until June 12, 1907, at which date he married Bertie Smith, daughter of James and Samantha (Poe) Smith. Mrs. Hill was born in McDonald township, was reared on a farm, received a good education and became a teacher in McGuffey and Roundhead schools. Mr. Hill and his wife have one son, James W., born March 10, 1909.

Mr. Hill is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and his wife belongs to the Presbyterian church of Roundhead. He is also a member of Roundhead Lodge Knights of Pythias, and Kenton Lodge Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Politically he is a Democrat, was elected commissioner in 1906, was reelected in 1908, and at present is serving the second term, being president of the board. He served four years as township trustee before being elected to his present office, and early took an interest in public affairs. He is an efficient and conscientious official, and highly esteemed by all.

Mr. Hill owns a farm in Roundhead township, comprising two hundred and eighty acres, and is a stockholder in the Belle Center Bank. He is a breeder of registered Herford cattle, and is enterprising and progressive in his manner of carrying on his farm.

C. W. Campbell.—Among the substantial and representative farmers of McDonald township is C. W. Campbell, a native of the township, born on the farm where he now resides, May 19, 1857. He is a son of William B. and Jane A. (Criswell) Campbell, who formerly lived in Greenfield, Ohio, and settled in Hardin county in 1852, there spending the remainder of their lives. Mr. Campbell began clearing the farm on which he settled, as it was thickly wooded, and he improved his land until he had a good homestead. He was an industrious and ambitious

farmer, and at the time of his death owned one hundred and seventy-five acres of excellent farm land. He had seven children, of whom C. W. is the fifth.

The boyhood of C. W. Campbell was spent on his father's farm, and when old enough he began assisting with the duties of farming. He attended the district school of his neighborhood and spent one term at the college in Geneva. At the death of his father he remained on the farm and bought out the interests of the other heirs, so that he now owns the home farm of one hundred and seventy-five acres. Besides carrying on general farming he has been very successful in stock raising. Mr. Campbell has worked hard on the farm ever since he was a boy and fully understands the conditions which exist thereon, so he is able to make the most possible profit from his work. He worked for his father by the month and saved enough money to make a start in life, and he owes his present success to his own efforts. He is one of the best known men in his community and has the respect and confidence of his fellows. Politically he is a Democrat, and takes a keen interest in public matters.

March 6, 1901, Mr. Campbell married Ada E. Greentree, who was born August 11, 1883, on a farm adjoining that of her husband, and here she was reared to womanhood. She was educated in the district school and remained at home until the time of her marriage. To this union four children have been born: Mary J., born December 28, 1901; Ada C., June 15, 1904; Elinore, May 31, 1907, and Dora Mildred, September 21, 1908. Mr. Campbell and his wife are members of the United Presbyterian church at Roundhead, and are active workers in the interests of same.

William Loyd Harvey is prominently identified with Mt. Victory and its interests as a merchant. He was born at Saratoga, Indiana, March 11, 1883, a son of Thomas M. and Martha M. (Thompson) Harvey. On the paternal side he traces descent to William Harvey, his great-great-grandfather. This William Harvey was a sailor and a Revolutionary soldier, and a brief account of his life is given in the sketch of Marvin O. Harvey. One of William's sons was Erastus Harvey, who became the great-grandfather of William L., and who served as a drummer in the war of 1812. He came with his brother Rufus to Logan county, Ohio, but later moved to Iowa, where he died in 1859 when ninety years of age. He was a Baptist minister, and his wife was Elizabeth Bettys.

Alonzo Harvey, a son of Erastus and Elizabeth Harvey, was born in the state of Vermont on the 29th of August, 1819, and he came with his parents to Logan county, Ohio. In 1860 he bought a farm in Union county, this state, but afterward sold that land and moved to Hardin county, buying a farm in Dudley township. He taught school during the winter months and farmed in the summers from the age of eighteen until the age of sixty, and he died in the year of 1888. On the 7th of July, 1844, he married Rachel Ballinger, who was born on the 15th of September, 1823, and died on the 10th of September, 1905. She was a

daughter of Caleb Ballinger, born in the year of 1794, and of Rebecca (Bronson) Ballinger, born in 1796. They came from Virginia to Ohio, and were among the earliest settlers of Union county. Caleb Ballinger was a Methodist minister. The following children blessed the marriage union of Alonzo and Rachel Harvey: William, a carpenter; Irwin Harley, a farmer in Hardin county; Mary Melvina, widow of George Thompson and a resident of Mt. Victory; Julius Oscar; and Thomas M.

Thomas M. Harvey was born in Union county, Ohio, July 9, 1853. After leaving school at the age of sixteen he farmed with his father until he reached the age of nineteen, and he then married and farmed for himself during the following six years. During that time he also studied for the ministry in the United Brethren church, and three years later became pastor of the church at Ottawa Corners. During the many years of his long and active life he labored as a minister throughout many parts of Indiana, his ministry covering twenty-five years of efficient and active service, and he died on the 17th of June, 1908. In the meantime he had purchased a farm, and he placed his sons thereon as managers, he continuing to devote his life to the work of his church. On the 3d of July, 1872, the Rev. Thomas M. Harvey married Martha M. Thompson, who still survives him and is now fifty-nine years of age. She is a daughter of Anderson and Anna (Conklin) Thompson, and is the mother of the following children: Myrtle, the wife of Peter Miller, and they have two children; Marvin O., a merchant in Mt. Victory; Homer, who is farming in Hale township, Hardin county; Nellie, the wife of Harry Hatcher, a farmer living in Mt. Victory; William L., the immediate subject of this sketch; and Mary, deceased.

Anderson Thompson, the father of Mrs. Harvey, was born in Union county, Ohio. In 1859 he moved to Hardin county, Dudley township with his family remaining until 1868, when he went to Hale township, where he farmed until his death, 1896, at the age of seventy-seven. His father, William Thompson, came as a boy from Virginia, and settled in Union county, Ohio, where he farmed all his life. His wife was Elizabeth Graham. The father of William Thompson, John Thompson, was the owner of a very large plantation in West Virginia and had many slaves. Anderson Thompson first settled on forty acres of the old Harvey homestead in Dudley township, and besides working his farm he also operated a brick kiln. After his marriage he made all his own household furniture, and as his daughter, Mrs. Harvey, relates, that he made the first payments of his farm by selling hickory nuts. During the Civil war he was drafted, and as he could not leave his family sent a substitute. He was a member of the Christian church and for many years a deacon. He was chaplain of the I. O. O. F. and charter member of Mt. Victory Lodge. In politics he was a Democrat, and a very active worker in his party. His wife, Ann Conklin, was a daughter of William and Rebecca (Coleman), and they were natives of Union county. She died in 1897, at the age of seventy-eight. Her grandfather was captured by the British during the Revolutionary war. He managed to escape during a skating exhibition which was gotten up to amuse the British soldiers. Of the eight children in the family of

Anderson Thompson but one besides Mrs. Harvey is living. He is John Thompson, of Kenton, in the real estate business. Mrs. Harvey makes her home at Collett, Indiana. She is engaged in ministering in the United Brethren church being in charge of the United Brethren church conference for the past six years as itinerant minister, she being the first lady given this work for her church.

William L. Harvey received a common and high school training in Mt. Victory, graduating at the age of eighteen, and he afterward taught two terms of school in Hardin county and two terms in Mercer county. He then left the professional for a business life, farming for himself for three years, and in 1906 he bought the Butler Brothers interest in his present mercantile business, his partner being his brother-in-law, G. W. Rutledge. He is a Republican in his political affiliations, and he has served Mt. Victory as a member of its council and his community as corporation and township treasurer.

On the 6th of November, 1902, Mr. Harvey was married to Eva P. Rutledge, who was born in Mercer county, Ohio, July 3, 1884, a daughter of Joseph and Caroline (Early) Rutledge, farming people in Mercer county. Their family numbered the following children: Elmer, farming in Mercer county; George, a Mt. Victory merchant; and Harvey, Charley, Otis, Lula, Hazel and Cora, at home with their parents. The five children of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey are: Mavis, Loyd, Edith, Alton, and Mildred. Both Mr. and Mrs. Harvey are members of the Methodist church, and Mr. Harvey is serving his church as one of its stewards.

Marvin O. Harvey, prominently numbered among the business men of Mt. Victory, is a well known hardware merchant. He was born in Dudley township, Hardin county on the 5th of September, 1875, and on the paternal side he traces descent to William Harvey, his great-great-grandfather. This William Harvey was a sailor and a Revolutionary soldier. The parents of William Harvey came from Scotland in 1730, and settled in Windsor county, Connecticut. Their son, William, was born at East Haddon, October 26, 1754. At the early age of fifteen he was a sailor on the vessel plying along the New England coast. At the beginning of the Revolutionary war he joined the Continental army, and was in the first battles around Boston. After the evacuation of Boston, he entered the navy and was sent on an expedition up North river and later detailed on a voyage to the West Indies. On this trip he was captured by a British man of war and taken to prison at Providence, Rhode Island. Here he was released in what was thought to be a dying condition, but after a time he reenlisted in the Continental army for three years and served under General Washington. In the year 1780 he was again sent to the West Indies, and again he was taken prisoner, and remained in the Bermuda Isles till the end of the war. He continued his sea voyages until 1793 when he moved with his family to Lyndon, Vermont, where he died in 1826. He had married an English lady, Jane Bebee, and she survived him until 1840, dying in Champaign county, Ohio. One of his sons was Rev. Erastus Harvey, who became the great-grandfather of Marvin O. of this sketch. Rev.

Harvey was born in East Haddon, Vermont, March 8, 1789. He was ordained in the Baptist ministry in August, 1825, and served for some time in Vermont, later coming to Ohio and ministering in Champaign, Clark and Union counties. During the war of 1812, he served five years in the United States service as drummer boy. Three of his brothers, like their father, followed the sea. On one of the voyages all three went on the same vessel and were never after heard from. In 1816 he married Elizabeth Bettys, of Woodbury, Vermont, and they reared a family of thirteen children. Two of the sons died during the Civil war. There were two ministers and a physician among his children.

Alonzo Harvey, a son of Erastus and Elizabeth Harvey, was born in the state of Vermont on the 29th of August, 1819, and he came with his parents to Logan county, Ohio. In 1860 he bought a farm in Union county, this state, but afterward sold that land and moved to Hardin county, buying a farm in Dudley township. He taught school during the winter months and farmed in the summers from the age of eighteen until the age of sixty, and he died in the year of 1888. On the 7th of July, 1844, he married Rachel Ballinger, who was born on the 15th of September, 1823, and died on the 10th of September, 1906. She was a daughter of Caleb Ballinger, born in the year of 1794, and of Rebecca (Bronson) Ballinger, born in 1796. They came from Virginia to Ohio, and were among the earliest settlers of Union county. Caleb Ballinger was a Methodist minister. The following children blessed the marriage union of Alonzo and Rachel Harvey: William, a carpenter; Irwin Harley, a farmer in Hardin county; Mary Melvina, widow of George Thompson and a resident of Mt. Victory; Julius O.; and Thomas M.

Thomas M. Harvey was born in Union county, Ohio, July 9, 1853. After leaving school at the age of sixteen he farmed with his father until he reached the age of nineteen, and he then married and farmed for himself during the following six years. During that time he also studied for the ministry in the United Brethren church, and three years later became pastor of the church at Ottawa Corners. During the many years of his long and active life he labored as a minister throughout many parts of Indiana, his ministry covering twenty-five years of efficient and active service, and he died on the 17th of June, 1908. In the meantime he had purchased a farm, and he placed his sons thereon as managers, he continuing to devote his life to the work of his church. On the 3d of July, 1872, the Rev. Thomas M. Harvey married Martha M. Thompson, who still survives him and is now fifty-nine years of age. She is a daughter of Anderson and Anna (Conklin) Thompson, and she is the mother of the following children: Myrtle, the wife of Peter Miller, and they have two children; Marvin O., the immediate subject of this sketch; Homer, who is farming in Hale township, Hardin county; Nellie, the wife of Harry Hatcher, a farmer living in Mt. Victory; William L., engaged in the grocery business in Mt. Victory; and Mary, deceased. In the sketch of William L. Harvey is given a sketch of the Thompson family.

Marvin O. Harvey after leaving school at the age of fourteen worked

three years in a churn factory, and from that time until he attained the age of twenty-two he was again in school. During two terms he attended Ada University, and after his graduation from that institution he taught school for nine years in Dudley and Hale townships. On account of the ill health of his wife he sold his farm and moved to California, where for two years he was engaged in a mercantile business, and then returning to Ohio he settled at Mt. Victory and bought the hardware store of Johnson and Ballinger and has since been engaged in business along this line, conducting at the present time one of the largest hardware stores in this section. He is a Democrat in his political affiliations, and has served his community as a justice of the peace.

Mr. Harvey married on the 13th of September, 1899, Edna Lingo, who was born on the 6th of July, 1879, a daughter of Alvin Lingo, mentioned elsewhere in this work. Their children are Clarinel, Merrill, Russell, Dwight and Louise. Both Mr. and Mrs. Harvey are members of the United Brethren church.

JOHN W. ZIMMERMAN.—It is a matter of gratification to the editors and publishers of this history of Hardin county to be able to incorporate within its pages a brief review of the career of this sterling citizen and successful agriculturist of Hardin county, where he has passed his entire life, being a scion of one of the honored pioneer families of this section of the Reserve, with whose annals the name has been identified for four generations—representing a period of nearly seventy years.

Mr. Zimmerman was born in McDonald township, Hardin county, on the 29th of July, 1857, and is a son of Humphrey J. and Susan (Wright) Zimmerman, the former of whom was born in Ross county, this state, about the year 1828, and the latter of whom was born in Fayette county, in 1832. Humphrey J. Zimmerman was a child of about six years at the time of his parents' removal from Ross county to Hardin county, where his father, John Zimmerman, secured a tract of wild and heavily timbered land, in the south part of McDonald township. In a log cabin of the type common to the pioneer epoch was established the family home and then came the task of reclaiming the land to cultivation. Here the parents of Humphrey J. Zimmerman passed the residue of their lives, living up to the full tension, the deprivations and vicissitudes of pioneer days, and here he himself was reared to manhood, his educational advantages being limited to the primitive subscription schools, and even as a boy he began to lend his aid in the development and other work of the home farm. At the age of twenty-two years he was married, and later he became the owner of the fine homestead farm now owned and occupied by his eldest son, the subject of this review. He was one of the successful farmers of the county, a man of sterling integrity and of indefatigable industry, and he did well his part in connection with the civic and industrial development of this now favored section of the fine old Western Reserve. His name is well entitled to a place of honor on the roll of the sturdy and valued pioneers of Hardin county, where he continued to reside until his death, which occurred in 1895, his cherished and devoted wife having passed away in 1867.

Humphrey J. Zimmerman was married to Emely Dolph of Roundhead, December 25, 1870, and died May 22, 1895, a few months before his father's death. In politics Humphrey J. Zimmerman was originally a Whig and later a Republican. Of the seven children born to him four lived to years of maturity: John W., whose name initiates this article, being the eldest of this number; Eliza J. became the wife of George Tidd and is now deceased; Samantha is the wife of Wesley McCoy, of Lima, Ohio; and Lawson L. is a representative farmer of Roundhead township.

John W. Zimmerman was reared to manhood on the old home farm in McDonald township, and to the common schools of that section he is indebted for his early educational discipline. He continued to be associated in the work and management of the home farm until his marriage, at which time he was twenty-six years of age. He soon afterward turned his attention to the buying of live stock, being thus employed by David Cole and Jake Wise of Forest, Ohio, for several years, after which he engaged independently and successfully in the buying and shipping of live stock. After the death of his honored father he purchased the interests of the other heirs to the old homestead farm, which comprised one hundred and thirty-seven and one-half acres, and his ability as a business man, together with his progressive policies and discrimination in connection with the great basic industry of agriculture, is best vouched for in the splendid success which he has gained. He is now the owner of a landed estate of eight hundred and forty-five acres, of which six hundred and ten acres are located in Hardin county; forty acres in Auglaize county; seventy-five acres in Logan county; and one hundred and twenty acres in Jasper county, Indiana, upon which last mentioned farm his eldest son, Arthur R. Zimmerman resides. On his finely improved homestead farm, one of the model places not only of Roundhead township but of Hardin county, Mr. Zimmerman erected in 1901 his attractive and spacious modern residence, which contains fifteen rooms, has more than one hundred feet of verandas, with basement under the entire building. The house is heated by furnace and was erected at a cost of more than four thousand dollars, being one of the finest farm homes of this section and being notable for its generous and gracious hospitality. The timber for the building was secured almost entirely from the farms of Mr. Zimmerman, and the appointments and finishings of the building throughout are of the most attractive order. In politics Mr. Zimmerman is a stanch supporter of the cause of the Republican party and while he takes a loyal and helpful interest in all that concerns the welfare of the community he has never been an aspirant for public office, the only official position in which he has consented to serve being that of member of the school board of his district. He is known as a progressive, liberal and honorable citizen and is held in unqualified esteem in the community that has ever represented his home and to whose social and material advancement he has contributed a due quota.

On the 29th of July, 1883, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Zimmerman to Miss Anna Ohler, who was born in Roundhead township,

Hardin county, on the 27th of May, 1862, and who is a daughter of William and Martha Ohler, who were honored pioneers of the county, where they continued to reside until their death. Mr. and Mrs. Zimmerman became the parents of nine children, all of whom are living and the four eldest of whom are married and established in homes of their own. The names of the children, with respective dates of birth, are here entered: Arthur R., July 8, 1884; Clara M., April 2, 1886; Esta L., November 8, 1888; James D., September 23, 1890; John, February 22, 1893; Susan, November 4, 1895; Lloyd, October 12, 1897; Noble, May 25, 1901; and Martha E., January 21, 1907. Arthur R., who resides in Jasper county, Indiana, as already noted, married Miss Lucretia Hankins, and they have one child named after his grandfather, John W.; Clara is the wife of Thomas Plummer, of Huntsville, Logan county, and has two boys; Esta L. is the wife of Midd Gossard, of Harrod, Ohio; and James D., who is engaged in farming on his grandfather Ohler's old homestead near Roundhead, which John W. and Anna his wife purchased after William and Martha Ohler's death. James D. married Miss Opal Harbert. All the children are farmers.

James R. Burnison.—Prominent among the thriving and progressive agriculturists of Hardin county is James R. Burnison, whose fine estate, adjoining the city of Kenton, is finely improved, and constitutes one of the most valuable and desirable farming properties in the neighborhood. He was born January 4, 1864, in Wyandot county, Ohio, where his father, the late Andrew W. Burnison, was a pioneer settler.

Andrew W. Burnison was born January 30, 1828, and was reared in Stark county, Ohio. March 24, 1852, he was married to Jane B. Melvin and to this union two children were born: Josephine, born December 13, 1854, and John W. born June 15, 1857. In the year 1858, after the death of his wife, Mr. Burnison removed to Wyandot county and here was employed in general farming on Whetstone creek. On March 26, 1859, he was again married, the name of his second wife being Margaret A. Baker. To this marriage four children were born: Francis M., born May 27, 1860; A. Ellsworth, March 6, 1862, died November 21, 1884; James R., born January 4, 1864 and Charles O., April 10, 1873. In 1864 Andrew Burnison removed with his family to Hardin county, locating on the Berdine farm in Dudley and Goshen townships where his youngest son was born. He resided on this farm until the death of his wife April 8, 1893, and then retired from active labor, making his home with his children until his death which occurred October 11, 1899.

Educated in the public schools, James R. Burnison subsequently assisted his father on the home farm until ready to begin life for himself. After his marriage he lived on a farm five miles south of Kenton for two years and the following year operated an elevator for the Marion Milling Company, in Hepburn. He subsequently conducted a general store in that place for a year, after which he was successfully engaged in mercantile pursuits in Alger until 1901. In that year Mr. Burnison purchased his present farm of eighty-six acres, which is most advantageously

J R Burnison

located, and is highly improved, being under a high state of cultivation, with substantial and conveniently arranged buildings for carrying on his work of a general farmer and dairyman.

Mr. Burnison has been twice married. He married first, at the age of twenty-six, Edith Barrett, who was born in Goshen township, Hardin county, a daughter of George and Eliza Barrett. She died two years later, leaving one child, Helen, who died at the age of eleven years. Mr. Burnison married second, in 1899, Minnie A. Myers, who was born in Putnam county, Ohio, a daughter of Thomas V. Myers, and granddaughter of George W. Myers, a pioneer settler of Franklin county, Ohio.

George W. Myers was born in Pennsylvania, of German ancestry, and as a young man settled in Franklin county, Ohio, becoming a pioneer of Madison township, where for many years he followed his trade of a cabinet maker. Moving to Putnam county in 1854, he bought land and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits the remainder of his active life. He married Margaret Matilda Blakely, who survived him more than a score of years, her death occurring in 1879, while his occurred in 1858. They became the parents of eleven children, not a large family in those days.

Thomas V. Myers was born September 22, 1846, in Madison township, Franklin county, Ohio. His father dying when he was a lad of tender years, he lived with his mother until 1864, when he enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Fifty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered into service at Camp Chase. Joining the Army of the Cumberland at Washington, D. C., he was on guard duty at the Capitol for some time. The most important battle in which he took part was one at Fort Stevens. Receiving his honorable discharge in September, 1864, Mr. Myers returned to Putnam county and resumed his agricultural labors. Buying a farm, subsequently, in Sugar Creek township, he lived there until 1884, when he purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies, in Sugar Creek township, Putnam county.

Thomas V. Myers married, in 1867, Matilda F. Garner, who was born in Sugar Creek township, Putnam county, December 6, 1843. Her father, William Garner, born near Culpeper Court House, Virginia, was one of the early settlers of that township, where he entered a tract of government land, and there built the humble log cabin in which his daughter Matilda was born. Both he and his wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Stover, spent their last years on the homestead which they improved from the forest.

Fraternally Mr. Burnison is a member of Latham Lodge, No. 154, F. & A. M.; and also belongs to Hopkins Lodge, No. 619, K. of P., being a charter member.

Frank M. McKinley, a well known and prosperous citizen of Hardin county, Ohio, is a member of one of the pioneer families of the state. He was born August 12, 1857, in Champaign county, Ohio, and is a son of William and Elizabeth (Pence) McKinley, both also natives of Champaign county, the former born November 28, 1832. William McKinley is a son of William and Mary (McKinley) McKinley, the

former born in Kentucky and the latter in Monmouth county, Ohio. Though they bore the same surname they were not closely related. William McKinley, Sr., was a son of Michael McKinley, a soldier in the Revolution. The McKinleys are of Scotch-Irish origin, and there is a tradition that Michael McKinley was a brother of the grandfather of the late president, William McKinley, although the fact has not been established beyond doubt. Michael McKinley married a German woman, and they had sons John, Peter and William.

William, son of Michael McKinley, was one of the pioneers of Champaign county, Ohio, and bought one hundred acres there, paying for it working by the day, and he walked seven miles to and from this work. He was a prominent man in the community and served his country in the war of 1812. He and his wife were parents of children, namely: Sarah, Nancy, Mahala, Margaret, William, Mary, Lucinda and Michael.

William McKinley, Jr., was married in Champaign county, Ohio, by Reverend D. E. Scott, October 2, 1855; he and his wife removed to Jackson township, Hardin county, March 9, 1861. Here he purchased eighty acres of land in its virgin state, cleared his land, and became a successful farmer. He now has a well tilled farm, well equipped with machinery, and a comfortable home. He is a member of the Baptist church. William McKinley and his wife became parents of the following children: Frank M., Aaron P., Mary T., Marie, Sarah E., Earl (deceased) and Arlo (twins), Lou E. (deceased) and William P.

Frank M. McKinley has spent most of his life in Jackson township, Hardin county, where he was reared and educated. He now owns an eighty-acre farm, with first class barns and other buildings, and his land is in a high state of cultivation. He has a very comfortable home, which is heated and lighted by gas which he obtains just outside his door, and enjoys all modern comforts and conveniences. In 1879 he purchased his first forty acres of land, adding another forty acres in 1897.

Mr. McKinley also owns two threshing machines, and these he operates during the season; he has followed this business for thirty-two years with gratifying success, and has never met with an accident. He is an industrious and enterprising man of affairs, and was one of the contractors for the construction of the McKinley and Kelly Pike. Mr. McKinley is an earnest member of the Baptist church of Forest. By the nature of his business interests Mr. McKinley meets a great many people, and is one of the highly respected and popular citizens of the county.

In 1883 Mr. McKinley was united in marriage with Wilhelmina Buess, who was born in 1857, and to this union have been born six children, namely: James, Otto B., Anna E., Edith G., Gladys C. and Joe.

George W. Lipold.—A systematic and thorough-going agriculturist, George W. Lipold is engaged in his free and independent calling on a highly improved farm in Pleasant township, Hardin county, where he is

meeting with excellent pecuniary results, his land being rich and productive. Coming on both sides of the house from German ancestry, he was born, February 18, 1861, in Pleasant township, being a son of the late Albert Lipold.

Emigrating from Germany, his native land, to the United States in 1856, Albert Lipold lived for a year in Canton, Ohio. The following year he came with his family to Hardin county, and immediately bought one hundred and twenty acres of land in Pleasant township. He cleared and improved a homestead, which, with fifty-six acres since added by his sons, who purchased it, still remains in the family. Here he carried on general farming to advantage for many years, residing on it until his death, July 2, 1880. He married Mary Lipold, also a native of the Fatherland, and she still survives. Five children were born to them, as follows: Nicholas, Andrew, Albert, George W., and William.

Having completed his studies in the district schools of his native township, George W. Lipold served an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade. He was afterwards in the employ of the Big Four Railroad Company for four years, subsequently working for other concerns for a period of six years. He then turned his attention to the occupation of his youthful days, and in 1898 bought his present farm in Pleasant township. It contains as fine farming land as can be found in this locality, and under his wise management is highly cultivated and improved, everything about the premises indicating the existence of cultivated tastes and ample means. In 1906 Mr. Lipold built a commodious residence, with all modern conveniences, and he has besides convenient buildings for housing his stock and his bountiful crops.

Mr. Lipold married, in 1898, Anna, daughter of John G. and Hannah Loop, and into their home two children have made their advent, namely: Goldie, born June 10, 1900; and William, born July 30, 1902.

John S. Harvey, a prominent and enterprising farmer of Dudley township, Hardin county, was born on the old Harvey homestead, September 5, 1875, and is a son of Julius O. and Sarah (Sullivan) Harvey. The ancestry of the Harvey family is given further mention in connection with the sketches of William L. and Marvin O. Harvey, of Mt. Victory, contained elsewhere in this work. Sarah Sullivan was born in Ross county, Ohio, March 22, 1836, a daughter of Henry Sullivan, a native of Virginia, who died in February, 1871, at the age of fifty-five years. He came to Logan county, Ohio, where he lived until 1838, and then removed to Perry county, Illinois, and there carried on farming until his death. He married Elizabeth Wilgues, a native of Pennsylvania, who died at the age of thirty-three years. Sarah Sullivan returned to Hardin county in 1866, and after her marriage to Mr. Harvey lived in Mt. Victory. She now lives on the farm with her son John S. Mrs. Harvey has one brother living, James Sullivan, a retired farmer of Iola, Kansas. The present home of Mrs. Harvey and her son is the old homestead of the Harvey family.

After receiving a good education in the public schools, John S. Harvey worked on the old home farm with his brother, commencing

active work at the age of eighteen years. He has made many improvements on the farm, which has been brought to a high state of cultivation and where there is a fine maple grove. He carries on general farming and makes a specialty of stock raising. Mr. Harvey is an earnest member of the United Brethren church. He is an active Republican and takes great interest in the success of his party. He is a member of the school board, is central committeeman and has served several times as delegate to various party conventions.

October 26, 1898, Mr. Harvey married Willa Lusanna Lingo, who was born October 5, 1879, daughter of James H. and Harriet (Williams) Lingo. Mr. Lingo lives in Dudley township; his wife is a daughter of Anderson Williams, an old pioneer. Mrs. Harvey had two sisters, both of whom are deceased, and she was the youngest of the family. Mrs. Harvey died April 29, 1906, and her loss was deeply felt in the community. She was a devout, earnest Christian, having been a member of the church since the age of eleven years. She died after an illness of one year, a patient, uncomplaining sufferer, whose chief thought was always for the comfort and well-being of her husband and child; she had a lovely disposition, and her high character and beautiful life made her beloved by all who knew her. Her good deeds were not confined to the members of her immediate family, and she was always ready to lend her assistance to all who were in need of help or comfort, and her example has served as an inspiration to many. Mr. and Mrs. Harvey had two children: One born February 29, 1904, died March 11, 1904, and Irene Cleone, born October 22, 1899.

Alonzo T. Harvey.—Farming operations in Hardin county, Ohio, are very profitable, and among those who have won success along this line is Alonzo T. Harvey, of Dudley township. Mr. Harvey was born in Taylor Creek, Ohio, June 29, 1874, and is a son of Julius Oscar and Sarah (Sullivan) Harvey, the former of whom died June 11, 1898, and the latter resides with Alonzo's brother, John S. Harvey, having attained the age of seventy-five years. Mrs. Harvey is given mention at length in connection with the sketch of her son, John S., found elsewhere in this work. The ancestry of the Harvey family is to be found in connection with the sketches of Marvin O. and William L. Harvey, of Mt. Victory, also to be found elsewhere in this work. J. O. Harvey and his wife had three children, namely: Alonzo T.; John S., a farmer of Dudley township; and Ocis, wife of Carl Latimer, of Marion, Ohio.

After receiving a good education in the public schools of his native place, Mr. Harvey began helping on his father's farm at the age of eighteen years. He remained at home until his marriage in 1894, when he bought his present farm of seventy acres, which was little improved. He has brought the condition of the farm up to a high standard, and now has one of the most attractive and best improved farms in this section of the country. He carries on general farming and stock raising, and being enterprising and thrifty, has been accordingly rewarded for his labor. Mr. Harvey owns one of the best known horses in Hardin county, the stallion "Liberty," of the Percheron breed, Registered No.

25,799, foaled April 29, 1900, at West Liberty, Ohio, by Boulanger (No. 11,352), the latter by Peoria and Brilliant.

Mr. Harvey is a member of the Knights of Pythias of Mt. Victory. Politically he is an active supporter of the Republican party, and is a member of the high school board. Mr. Harvey is well known in the county, and is accounted one of its useful, representative citizens.

In October, 1894, Mr. Harvey married Olive Smith, who was born in Dudley township, December 24, 1874, daughter of Samuel Smith, who died in 1890, at the age of forty-seven years. He was born in Logan county, and removed to Hardin county, Ohio, with his parents, when he was seven years of age. His parents, Jonathan and Susan (Cunningham) Smith, were among the earliest settlers of Hardin county. Jonathan Smith died in 1868, at the age of eighty-five years; he came from Maryland to what later became Washington county, Ohio, and there followed farming the remainder of his life. He assisted in building the old stage road. He came to Hardin county in 1845, and settled in Dudley township, near the present family homestead, containing one hundred and ten acres, which he cleared, being the first settler on it, and there he built a log house. He was the founder of the Methodist Episcopal church, helped erect the first church building, becoming class leader and local pastor. He was very active in church work all his life, and was a highly respected, useful member of society. He was a Whig and later became a Republican. His widow survived him many years, and passed away in 1893, at the age of eighty years.

Mrs. Mary Ann Stevenson, who owns extensive farming interests in Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born near Urbana, Champaign county, Ohio, May 25, 1822, daughter of Dan and Nancy (Hill) Hullinger. Dan Hullinger was born in Virginia, and his father's name was also Dan. The elder man was also a native of Virginia and served in the Revolution. Mrs. Stevenson's father served in the war of 1812 and came with his father to Champaign county; the latter died in 1844. The son died in 1858, at the age of sixty-two years. His wife died in 1825.

In 1835, when thirteen years of age, Mrs. Stevenson came to Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, with a sister, and worked in various families until her marriage. For some time she earned her living by spinning wool. November 26, 1840, Mary Ann Hullinger married Homer Stevenson, who was born in Green county, Ohio, May 31, 1816, and died in September, 1904. He was a son of William and Mary Ann (Hillis) Stevenson and came to Taylor Creek township in 1830. Mrs. Stevenson is one of the oldest living pioneers of Hardin county and the last of the older generation of the Stevenson family to survive. She has witnessed many changes in the community and the manner in which the people of the county live. When she came to the county many fine farms of the present day were mostly covered with a heavy growth of timber, and neighbors were far apart. She is known and loved by a large circle of friends and is known to old and young alike as "Aunt Mary Ann."

William Stevenson located in Xenia, Ohio, in 1800, being one of the very earliest inhabitants of the region, and he later settled on the Little Miami, being one of the early pioneers of that region. He served as county assessor and also as justice of the peace. He served in the war of 1812 and died in 1826. His widow died in 1841. Homer Stevenson helped build the first schoolhouse in his district, now known as the Stevenson schoolhouse. In 1844 he and his wife built the first cabin in the neighborhood where she now lives, and in 1862 they erected the house which is still the family home. They first owned eighty acres but soon added another sixty acres. They made their own furniture for keeping house and endured all the privations incident to pioneer life. In early days they took eggs to Kenton on horseback and received three cents per dozen for them. Mr. Stevenson was an industrious, enterprising farmer and met with gratifying success. He was a public-spirited, useful citizen and actively interested in public affairs. He was a strong Republican and voted for Harrison for president in 1840. He was highly esteemed and served thirty years as township assessor, also served as justice of the peace. The first school in the neighborhood was built near what is now the Moy farm and was taught by a brother of Mr. Stevenson. Another brother, Charles, was the first auditor of Hardin county. Mr. Stevenson won success entirely through his own efforts, as he started with almost nothing and at his death was possessed of a large property. When a young man and calling on his sweetheart, he came by horseback, and together he and she would travel on the same horse many miles to attend a party or dance.

Mr. Stevenson and his wife had children as follows: Rachel, wife of Leander King, has four children; Bartley E., who was killed in the battle of Winchester; Miller, who lives near Bellefontaine, a veteran of the Civil war, married Lizzie Raney and they have three children and one grandchild; Elizabeth, wife of Albert Ranney, a farmer living near Kenton, has one child, Mary Ethel; Perry, living near the old homestead, married Amy Burbey and they have one child, Scott; David, of Rushsylvania, Ohio, married Sarah Bailey and they have five children; and Margaret, married Otis Hopkins, of Taylor Creek township. Mr. Stevenson was a member of the United Presbyterian church of Silver Creek, Ohio. Mrs. Stevenson still resides on the old homestead, and is remarkable for her perfect health and activity. She does a large amount of work for one of her age, caring for her personal needs and doing small chores around the farm, such as helping with the milking, etc. She is a woman of high intelligence and remarkable for her good memory and ability to recount notable events in the history of the county where so large a part of her life has been spent.

Joseph A. Rubeck, an enterprising and practical farmer of Dudley township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born on the farm where he now resides, February 24, 1877, son of Peter and Barbara (Winslick) Rubeck, both natives of Germany. Peter Rubeck came with his father, George Rubeck, to the United States, when five years of age. They located in

Huron county and in 1874 he came to what is now the home of his son Joseph. He built the present house and carried on farming until 1901 and then retired and moved to Kenton. The home place was formerly owned by a company that conducted a saw mill along the Scioto river. Peter Rubeck married Barbara Winslick, who died in 1909, at the age of sixty-nine years. She came to America with her parents when she was sixteen years of age. She and her husband had children as follows: Joseph A.; Mary, wife of J. Steiner, a farmer; Anna, widow of George Schorff; Lizzie, wife of H. Rohr, of Kenton; Rosa, wife of J. Rueber; Maggie, wife of John Schorff; Tina, at home; John, a blacksmith in Marion, Ohio; and George, also a blacksmith of Marion.

Joseph A. Rubeck lived with his parents until his majority and attended school until seventeen years of age. He farmed four years for himself and then began conducting his present farm with his brother and sister. He farmed in partnership with them until his marriage, when he purchased their interest and has since conducted the farm on his own account. He has one hundred and fifty-two acres of fine land, and besides general farming pays special attention to poultry and stock. He is a member of the Catholic church in Larue, and although interested in public affairs takes no active part in politics. He is a progressive, up-to-date farmer, and produces the maximum of profit from his farm. He is well known in the community and has a large circle of friends.

Mr. Rubeck married Helen Offenburger, a native of Washington county, born March 4, 1886, daughter of Laundler Offenburger, who is now fifty-five years of age. He is a plumber by trade and he and his wife, Mary (Glant) Offenburger (aged fifty-one years) live in Marietta, Ohio. Both are natives of Pennsylvania. Besides Mrs. Rubeck Mr. Offenburger and his wife have children as follows: Anna, wife of H. Albrecht, of Mansfield; Rosa, wife of Al Kuhns, of Pittsburg; George, of Columbus; and Ollie, Paul and Florence, all at home. Mr. Offenburger and his wife belong to the Catholic church and are members of the Altar society of the church. Mr. Rubeck and his wife are parents of two children, namely: Maris Christina, born July 14, 1904, and Denandis, born February 15, 1908.

Albert Willis Cook, a successful and substantial farmer of Dudley township, Hardin county, is a native of the township, and was born on the old Cook homestead, June 26, 1858. He is a son of Nelson Wesley and Susanna ((Dilldine) Cook, the former a native of Knox county, Ohio, and a son of Silvanus Cook.

Silvanus Cook was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, April 14, 1807, and came to Ohio at the age of seven years, locating with his parents in Richland county. He was married, April 23, 1830, to Anna Spracklin, who was born June 14, 1805, a native of England, who came with her parents to the United States, at the age of eighteen years. Silvanus Cook was a stanch Republican and active in public matters; he served in several townships and was active in the interests of his party. He removed to Hardin county in 1843.

After attending the public schools Nelson Wesley Cook helped with

the work of his father's farm and took up the trade of carpenter, which he followed until his marriage. He rented the old Ward farm for one year after his marriage, then purchased the homestead which became the family home, in 1859. In 1879 he erected a brick house, the first in the vicinity; he made his own brick, after building the kiln himself, and procured the mortar from his farm. He carried on farming until his death, February 3, 1880, at the age of fifty years. His widow now resides in Marion, Ohio, and has reached the age of seventy-three years. Mr. Cook was a Republican, though he took no active part in politics, and he was a member of the United Brethren church. He and his wife were parents of ten children, of whom nine still survive. Albert W. is the oldest son and the other children are: Mary Ann, widow of William Davis; Viola, wife of William Key; John Elmer, a farmer of Iowa; Katy, wife of Charles Wosts; Lydia, wife of William Morris; Harry, a farmer of Marion county; Maude, wife of Charles Ansley; and Claude, a salesman, of Marion.

Albert W. Cook attended public school until he was fifteen years of age and then assisted with the work of the farm, remaining at home until he was of age. After the death of his father he was the mainstay of the family, as he was the oldest son and the youngest child was only a year and a half old. He remained with his mother until his marriage, then rented a farm in Marion county one year, and later purchased the home where he now lives, the old Dilldine home. The Dilldine family owned one of the first log houses in the vicinity, and when Mr. Cook purchased the farm it contained fifty acres, of which only five acres was cleared. He now owns ninety-three acres, and his farm is one of the best improved in the northern part of the township.

March 22, 1887, Mr. Cook married Emma Cosner, who was born in Marion county, Ohio, April 11, 1866, daughter of William Cosner, who died in 1903, at the age of seventy-three years. Mr. Cosner removed to Ohio from Virginia with his parents, when eighteen years of age, and they settled in Marion county, where he spent the remainder of his life farming. Mr. Cosner married Abigail Johnson, who died in 1904, at the age of sixty-nine years. She was born in Marion county, a daughter of Adam and Susan (Seyler) Johnson, pioneers of Marion county. William Cosner was a son of Adam Cosner, who located in Marion county among the early pioneers and there carried on farming all his life. William Cosner reared his children in the Methodist Episcopal faith. Besides Mrs. Cook he and his wife had children as follows: Jenny, wife of J. N. Court, of Marion, Ohio; Mary, wife of St. Powell, deceased; Frank, of Michigan, a pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church; Lizzie, deceased wife of William Hinkler; John, a farmer of Dudley township; and Lydia and Joseph, twins, the latter deceased and the former wife of W. H. Cummins. Mrs. Cook is a member of the United Brethren church and an active worker for the Ladies' Aid Society. She and her husband became parents of children as follows: Gail, born February 10, 1888, at home; Alton G., born in November, 1891, a clerk of Marion, Ohio; Hortense May, born May 8, 1893, at home; one child who died in infancy; Nelson Allen, born October 12, 1897, at

school; Lena and Lorin (twins), born October 4, 1899; and Harold, born in 1902.

Mr. Cook is also a member of the United Brethren church and a parsonage trustee. He is a Republican in political principles, and held several township offices, such as supervisor (two terms) and member of the school board (two terms), and is a member of the Sons of Veterans. He has acquired his present success in life by his own unaided efforts. He and his wife began housekeeping with almost nothing. They had a little furniture and a few cooking utensils, and Mr. Cook owned a horse and colt he had received from his parents as wages for a year's work. He carried on general farming with good results and pays special attention to stock raising, breeding and raising a number of horses. Among his horses may be named "Young Sieg," a pacer, that has figured many times in county races. This horse is sired by Sigma Nu, No. 8009, and the dam, Molly Boston, Mr. Cook raised himself. Mr. Cook also owns a dapple gray team of registered horses, a full blood stallion and good driving horses. He has a large herd of sheep, sixteen head of cattle and two registered full blood brood hogs, both of Poland China breed, from "Dew Rock,"

Charles R. Crum, postmaster of Forest, and one of its representative and substantial citizens, was appointed to his present office in February, 1907. He has fulfilled his duties in a business-like and able manner, that commends itself to all the patrons of the postoffice. Five rural routes radiate from Forest, through which some six hundred families daily receive mail.

Mr. Crum is a native of Forest, born in 1877, and was reared and educated in this town, where later he became engaged in mercantile business. He is a son of A. H. and Eleanor (Cook) Crum, the former from Richland county, Ohio. The Cook family was from Connecticut, and moved to Ohio in 1832. A. H. Crum was born in Huntington, Indiana, in 1846, and came to Ohio with his parents in 1849; and in 1858 he came to Kenton, Ohio. He was reared and educated in the home of his aunt, Mrs. Catherine Crum. While in Kenton, in company with his brother-in-law, D. V. Branch, he kept the Pease House. In 1861 he and Mr. Branch removed to Forest, and for some time kept a hotel in partnership. In 1862 A. H. Crum enlisted as private in Company C, Eighty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry; he was in the Third Division and became orderly for General Robinson, of Kenton. His division became attached to General Sherman's command and took part in the historic march to the sea. At the battle of Atlanta Mr. Crum was color-bearer, and after color-guards Mahon, Knaus, Stanacher, Baker and Williams were shot down, he was still hanging to the colors of his regiment. He was wounded slightly in the right knee at Resaca, Georgia. In 1865 he received his honorable discharge. At the close of the war Mr. Crum realized the need for more knowledge, and for a time attended school. Subsequently he removed to Findlay, Hancock county, Ohio, and took a clerical position, soon after which he was married. To them were born: L. D., Mrs. Gertrude Spear, Mrs. Maud

Ford, Charles R. and Dr. John R., of Dunkirk. Mr. Crum spent twenty-seven years in farming and purchased eighty acres of land in its wild state, which he cleared and cultivated. In 1896 he removed to Forest, where he lives retired, surrounded by modern comforts and conveniences. His son L. D. married Carrie A., daughter of Mrs. M. J. Foster, in 1896; Mrs. Crum was born in Marion, Ohio, July 10, 1874. They have three sons, A. Harry, born in 1898; Foster, in 1901; and Louis J. in 1908.

Charles R. Crum and his brother L. D. have for some time been proprietors of a confectionery and bakery business besides conducting a first-class lunch room in Forest. They are industrious and energetic, and have met with good success. During the Spanish-American war Charles R. Crum served as a member of Company I, Twentieth Ohio Volunteers. He belongs to Senate Lodge No. 378, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. Mr. Crum is unmarried and lives with his parents. He has the full confidence of his fellow citizens, and takes an active interest in public affairs.

Charles Darrell Kelley is prominently associated with Hardin county as a journalist, and he represents a family which has been identified with Ohio since before its admission into the union of states and which has been represented in every prominent war of the nation. It was the paternal great-great-grandfather who became a resident of Ohio before its admission as a state to the Union, when the territory, sparsely settled by sturdy pioneers, was holding its own against British invasion and Indian wars. His son Joseph, of Irish lineage and a native of Ohio, was a trader, farmer and rural barrister, as was his father before him. He married Sarah Shaw, a native of Pennsylvania, and among their children was Mathew Kelley, who was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, and at the time of his death was a store keeper at Groveport, Ohio. He married Louisa Weaver, and among their children numbered Isaac Kelley, who became the father of the Kenton editor. Isaac N. Kelley was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, subsequently moved to Franklin county, this state, and after attending school there and at Ada he engaged in farming in Hardin county. His wife was before marriage Jennie Rarey, a great-granddaughter of Charles Rarey, a farmer, who came to this country from Germany before the opening of the eighteenth century and was one of the first frontiersmen in the vicinity of Columbus, Ohio. Her father settled in Hardin county in 1854.

Charles D. Kelley was born on his parents' farm three miles west of Kenton on the 8th of July, 1882. During three years of his early life he attended school in district No. 10 of the Scioto Valley. On the 1st of April, 1891, he accompanied the family on their removal to a farm adjoining South Kenton, and a year or two later they took up a permanent residence in Kenton, where the head of the household became the deputy postmaster. All of the members of this family are living excepting the father, whose death occurred when Charles was a lad of fourteen, and it was by dint of hard work, economy and perseverance that the large family afterward held together. Young Charles con-

Charles D. Kelley

tinued his attendance at school, working on farm, in factory and store between terms, and was graduated from the Kenton high school with distinction on June 6, 1901. He afterward continued his education along special lines, but his specialty seemed the literary field, black and white drawing and mathematics. He was chosen by the Kenton schools to represent his city in an interurban oratorical contest at Upper Sandusky on May 10, 1901, and in his oration entitled "The Swing of the Pendulum" he demonstrated forensic superiority and won the chief prize that was awarded to the male division in the contest, which embraced all the important cities of northwestern Ohio.

In 1901, in Kenton, Mr. Kelley engaged in the newspaper business as a regular vocation, he having previously at various times held small positions, such as carrying papers, learning to set type, etc. Upon leaving school he accepted a regular position as reporter on the *Daily Democrat* and two years later became the city editor, but on the 1st of July, 1905, resigned the position to engage in newspaper work elsewhere. He assisted in the starting of a new paper at Sidney, and a few weeks later became associate editor of the *News-Republican* at Kenton. He held that position until October 31, 1907, when he acquired twenty-five per cent of the stock of The Kenton Republican Company, became a director and the secretary of the company, and the editor-in-chief of the company's publications,—*The News-Republican, The Hardin County Republican* and *The Graphic-News*. From the time of his first vote Mr. Kelley has been a Roosevelt Republican; is a strong champion of principles he believes to be right,—at the same time granting that other men have a right to views of their own. He is not affiliated with secret societies, but has given much time to the reorganization and betterment of The Kenton Guards, Company I, Second Regiment of Infantry, O. N. G. He enlisted in the company on June 10, 1902, first as a private, being later appointed company clerk, and then corporal; was elected first lieutenant and commissioned August 1, 1906; and was next elected captain of the Second Infantry and placed in command of Company I. At the time of this commission, made by Governor Harris on March 4, 1907, he is thought to have been the youngest commanding officer in the state. During his captaincy the command has won an excellent reputation through its personnel and marksmanship.

Mr. Kelley married on June 29, 1907, Miss Bess G. Stevenson, an accomplished young woman of Kenton, great-granddaughter of Harvey Buckminster, who conducted the pioneer stage coach line in this part of Ohio, running from Detroit to Cincinnati, and in whose honor Buck township was named. A daughter, Lillian Jane, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Kelley on the 22d of November, 1909. As an editor Charles D. Kelley has proved himself an intelligent shaper of matter for public print, and as a citizen he is identified with the earnest life of his community, public spirited and patriotic and a diligent worker at anything he attempts. His kindly and always sympathetic nature account for no personal enemies, and his sturdy character and strong personality mark him as one of the truest and best citizens of his community.

James B. Fuel, a well known and highly respected citizen of Jackson township, Hardin county, was born in Clinton county, Indiana, in December, 1843. He is a son of Henry and Susan Fuel, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Tennessee. Mr. Fuel and his wife were parents of seven children, namely: Lucy, Martha, Alice, Samantha, Leatha, Miranda and James B.

The early days of James B. Fuel were spent in his native county, and here he attended the district school; he learned the saddle-tree trade, but could not stand the indoor confinement, so abandoned it. He began learning the trade of machinist, but soon gave that up for farming, in which line he has been very successful. Mr. Fuel heard the call of his country at the time of the Rebellion, and enlisted in Company B, Tenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, for three months, being enrolled as musician; at the expiration of this term of service Mr. Fuel reenlisted in Company B, Sixty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry, for three years. At the end of this time he was honorably discharged and reenlisted in the same company, serving until the end of the war. He served with bravery and distinction, and took part in many engagements, among them: Rich Mountain, Bowling Green, Petersburg, Savannah, Gettysburg and Nashville. He was wounded three times, first at Petersburg and again at Jonesboro and Atlanta. He was taken prisoner at Atlanta and confined four months in Andersonville prison; he was one of six who attempted to escape from prison, five of whom succeeded and one was shot, he being one of the five to reach the Union lines. Upon being mustered out at the close of the war, Mr. Fuel returned to farming, and since 1879 has owned his present farm of one hundred and thirty-five acres, which he devoted to general farming. He has carried on his farm in an able, efficient manner, and has managed so well financially that he now contemplates retiring from active life, to spend his remaining years in the town of Forest.

Mr. Fuel is actively interested in local affairs, and has been honored by the offices of township trustee and school director. He is well known in the community, where his good qualities and high character are appreciated. Mr. Fuel is a prominent member of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic. He and his wife have a daughter who resides with them.

Charley Stout.—Earnest in purpose, enterprising and industrious, Charley Stout is actively identified with the advancement of the industrial prosperity of Hardin county, being busily employed as a farmer, and a lumber manufacturer and dealer in Hepburn. A son of the late Safety Stout, he was born, August 29, 1857, in Licking county, Ohio.

His paternal grandfather, Robert Stout, who served in the war of 1812, came to Ohio in pioneer times, locating in Marion county. Taking up a tract of land that was still in its virgin wildness, he cleared and improved a homestead, on which he was engaged in tilling the soil the remainder of his active career. He died in 1870, at the venerable age of eighty-six years. He married Jane Newman, who became blind during her later years, otherwise retaining her faculties until her death.

Safety Stout was born, in 1818, in New Jersey, and came as a child with the family to Marion county, Ohio, where he grew to man's estate, acquiring a meager education in the pioneer schools of his day. He subsequently drove stage for a number of years, but after his marriage engaged in the manufacture of lumber, at first having a saw mill in Licking county, but later removing to Marion county, his mill being a portable one. In 1886 he established his mill in Dudley township, and continued its operations until his retirement from active business, continuing his residence here until his death, at the age of seventy-two years and ten months. He married Cynthia Freeman, who was born in 1819, and died in 1891. Her father, H. Freeman, served in the war of 1812, and was subsequently an early settler of Licking county, Ohio, where he cleared a homestead from the wilderness, and did his part in advancing the interests of town and county. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Safety Stout, as follows: Oliver, engaged in farming in Dudley township; Alice, wife of Milt Armstrong, of Findlay, Ohio; Diantha, wife of Louis Farmer, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Nashville, Tennessee; and Charley, the special subject of this sketch.

Receiving but limited educational advantages, Charley Stout began at the age of thirteen years to be in a measure self supporting. Assisting his father in the saw mill, he began running an engine when a mere boy, and subsequently remained with his parents as long as they lived, caring tenderly for them in their closing years. Succeeding to the business at the death of his father, Mr. Stout was extensively engaged as a lumber manufacturer and dealer for many years, and in connection with this industry has carried on general farming since 1893. A man of excellent character and good business qualifications, Mr. Stout has won well merited success in his varied undertakings, and the respect in which he is held throughout the community gives evidence of his upright and manly life.

Mr. Stout married Dora Moore, who was born in Iowa, in 1858, a daughter of John and Louisa Moore. Her father, a life-long farmer, served as a soldier in the Civil war for a period of three years, taking part in many engagements of importance, in one of which he was severely wounded in the shoulder, the wound, and subsequent exposure and hardships, causing his death. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Stout, namely: Arthur, employed as a clerk in Hepburn, married Rosa Ward, and they have one child, Harry Stout; Clifton, deceased; Norma, living at home; Callie, died in infancy; and Mabel, who died when an infant. Politically Mr. Stout supports the principles of the Democratic party at the polls, but has never been an office seeker. Religiously both he and his estimable wife are valued members of the United Brethren church.

Leroy S. Dickerson.—Among the enterprising young men of Mt. Victory, Ohio, is Leroy S. Dickerson, station agent for the Big Four Railway and Western Union telegraph operator, born in Shelby, Ohio, February 8, 1888, son of Charles E. and Ida (Pettit) Dickerson, the mother dying when her son was three weeks old. The child was reared

by his foster-parents, Audrian and Addie (Rex) Dickerson. Audrian Dickerson, Sr., died September 9, 1908, at the age of forty-five years; he was born in Ohio, and followed farming until eighteen years of age when he took the position of engineer for threshing machine, which he followed all his life. He was highly respected and well liked by all who knew him, and was an earnest member of the Lutheran church. For twenty years he was a member of the Royal Arc Lodge. His wife was born in Richland county, Ohio, and is now forty-four years of age. The father of Charles E. Dickerson, Thomas Dickerson, lives at Shiloh, Ohio, and has reached the age of eighty-eight years; his wife, who was Susan Miller, is deceased.

Leroy S. Dickerson has one brother and one sister living, who were reared by their grandparents,—Roscoe Pettit, of Toledo, Ohio, a mail clerk; and Bertha, living in Shiloh with her grandmother Pettit. Mr. Dickerson attended school until eighteen years of age, graduating in 1905, and then became employed at Shelby, Ohio, as agent and telegraph operator, remaining there until 1906, when he engaged with the Western Union Telegraph Company, at United States Stock Yards, at Cleveland. Returning to Shiloh, he engaged as operator for the Big Four Railroad at Columbia, Ohio, and later transferred to Mt. Victory, where he has since been employed as freight and ticket agent, and also Western Union telegraph operator.

Politically Mr. Dickerson is a strong Republican, and he is actively interested in public affairs. He is a member of the Lutheran church, of Shiloh, and is a young man of good principles and high character, honest and upright in all his dealings. He is highly esteemed by his employers and has a large circle of friends. In 1908 Mr. Dickerson married Rose A. White, who was born January 13, 1887, in Richland county, a daughter of Newton H. and Alice (Rose) White, retired farmers. To this union one child has been born, Alice, born December 9, 1908. The foster-parents of Mr. Dickerson had one child of their own, Mary S., who married R. W. Corkhill, of Cleveland.

James W. Obenour is identified with both the agricultural and commercial life of his community, and he is one of Hardin county's native sons, born in its township of Washington on the 24th of March, 1855. His parents, Henry and Mary Jane (Sheppard) Obenour, are both now deceased, the father dying in 1860, and the mother in 1894, she having reached the age of seventy-two years. She was born in Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Obenour were among the earliest settlers of Hardin county, and he was a life-long agriculturist. Both were members of the Methodist church. In their family were the following children: Levi Perry, a Dudley township farmer; Joshua, who is farming in McGuffey township; and Susanna, the wife of John Taylor, of Kenton.

James W. Obenour, also a member of this family, after the school age of fifteen worked at farm labor and at railroading. He has worked in the fields from a very early age, for as a boy of eight he followed the plow, and so small was he at that time that he had to stand on a box to

hitch and unhitch a team of horses. After the father's death the mother cared for her children as best she could, and when her son James was seventeen they moved to the town of North Washington, he continuing to live with his mother until her death. During three years he was the engineer of the Kenton Paper Mills; moving then to Terre Haute, Indiana, he was the engineer of a large plant there, and later was similarly engaged at Indianapolis, Indiana, and Lima, Ohio, until in 1891 he returned to Kenton and his former occupation of farming. During the six years following his return he lived in McDonald township, and then purchasing another farm near Kenton he was there for three years, moving then to Hepburn, where he has since been engaged in conducting a meat market and in farming.

He was first married to Elma Jane Smith, a daughter of Hiram and Elizabeth Smith, and a son and a daughter were born to them.—Perry C., who is now twenty-three years of age and a mechanic in Detroit, Michigan, and Rena Lodema, twenty-five years of age and the wife of Louis Dodson, a farmer in Dudley township. There are also two grandchildren, Edward N. and Mary Ellen. Mrs. Obenour died in the year of 1891, when thirty-two years of age, and Mr. Obenour married for his second wife Ellen (Williams) Rimiek, a daughter of Cornelius Williams, now deceased. Mrs. Obenour has two children by her former marriage, Ida, the wife of William Smith, of Seattle, Washington, and Charles, a farmer near Larue, Ohio. The second union has been without issue.

Marsena Stewart Spencer is one of Hepburn's business men. He was born in Allen county, Ohio, near Spencerville, on the 16th of May, 1869, and he is a son of one of Ohio's early and well known ministers, the Rev. David Duman Spencer. The last named was born in Miami county, Ohio, and he died at the age of seventy-four years, in 1899. Amos Spencer, his father, located in Miami county during an early period in its history, and he was a life-long farmer. The Rev. David D. Spencer after leaving the school room followed farming until 1861, and he then began to study for the ministry. In 1885 he entered the pulpit as a Missionary Baptist minister, his field of labor being Miami county. At the opening of the war between the north and the south he enlisted for service at Troy, Ohio, and at the close of his first term re-enlisted, but was discharged and pensioned before the close of the war on account of sickness. He entered the ranks as a private, but was afterward commissioned as a first lieutenant, and at the close of his military service he returned to Troy and to his ministerial labors. For a period of five years he was stationed in Allen county, was later two years at Janesville, for three years was pastor of the Ada church, during a similar period was stationed at Liberty Center, Indiana, was then two years at the Eel River Baptist church, then returning to Liberty Center was stationed there for two more years, and then coming to Mercer county, Ohio, he served as the pastor of three appointments and branches there. In 1886 Rev. Spencer returned to his first charge, the old Manda and Marion church, and there he also ended his ministerial

work. Through his efforts the old Foraker church was built, and his entire career as a minister was characterized with efficient service and with duties well performed. He married Mary K. Sutton, and she is now living in Spencerville, Ohio. She is a daughter of Thomas and Susan (Kephart) Sutton).

Marsena S. Spencer was one of twin sons, and his brother, Artemus Spencer, is now a teacher in Spencerville, Ohio. After leaving school at the age of fourteen Marsena S. Spencer followed farming for three years, and then entering the employ of the Erie Railroad Company he was their agent and operator at Conant, this state, for two years, and for twelve years was stationed at Foraker, leaving there for Adrian, Michigan, where he spent one year as clerk and cashier of their freight office. Returning then to Foraker he was for a time extra traveling agent, was next stationed at Kemp one year, and in 1904 he came to Hepburn as an agent and operator. In July of 1909 he left the railroad service to engage in the hay business, and in addition he owns a restaurant and store at this place. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity at Kenton and of the Maccabees at Hepburn.

On the 28th of June, 1891, Mr. Spencer was married to Hattie I. Wheeler, who was born in Noble county, Ohio, June 21, 1871, a daughter of Enos and Lottie (Lamley) Wheeler, who are living on a farm in Hardin county, the father sixty-nine years of age and the mother sixty-six. They have two children living, and the son, Amos Wheeler, resides near them. Mrs. Spencer is a member of the Baptist church at Foraker, also belonging to its Ladies Aid Society, and she is a member of the Pythian Sisters at Hepburn and its mistress of finance. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Spencer: Ralph, who is deceased; Mildred, born August 22, 1895; Gladys, born December 13, 1898; LeRoy, born February 21, 1901; and Harold, born July 7, 1903.

Azel Frank Ballinger.—Among the prominent and prosperous farmers of Hardin county, Ohio, is Azel Frank Ballinger, who owns a fine farm in Dudley township. Mr. Ballinger was born August 5, 1879, on the old Ballinger homestead, and is a son of Layman and Louisa (Nash) Ballinger, the former of whom died in 1898, at the age of fifty-five years. Layman Ballinger was born November 25, 1844, in Logan county, Ohio, being a son of Henry and Rebecca C. (Moore) Ballinger. The Ballinger family originally came from England and settled in New Jersey. Joshua Ballinger came to Ohio from New Jersey in the early days, and located in Logan county near Middleburg. Henry Ballinger was born about one mile south of Middleburg, being the elder of the two children born to Henry and Patience (Bishop) Ballinger. Rebecca C. Moore was born in New Jersey, and when five years old came to Ohio with her parents. After her marriage to Mr. Ballinger, November 23, 1837, they settled on the farm in Perry township about two miles north of East Liberty, where they spent the remainder of their lives; he being eighty-six at the time of his death and she seventy-three years of age. They were both members of the Methodist Episcopal church from early life until their deaths.

Layman Ballinger, the father of Azel F., followed farming all his life. He had lived in Champaign county until the age of fifteen when he went to Logan county, later going to Hardin county, where he took up farming on one hundred acres in Dudley township. In October, 1861, he enlisted in Company C, Seventeenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry for three years. He took part in the battles of Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, and Pittsburg Landing, Atlanta and others. During the last year and a half he served as orderly sergeant to which office he had been promoted. His wife, Louisa Nash, was born July 13, 1846, in Bellefontaine, her father, John Nash, was a native of Pennsylvania, of Irish descent. His wife, Elizabeth Ann Peterson, was born in Virginia, of German parentage, her father, Jacob Peterson, being one of the pioneers of Ohio. Layman Ballinger and wife had several children, of whom one daughter is living besides Azel. She is Effie, wife of Carl Davis, a farmer of Dudley township.

After receiving a good education in the public schools of his native county, Azel F. Ballinger helped with the work on his father's farm, and thoroughly learned the details of all kinds of farm work. When he was nineteen years of age his father died, and the young man tried to take the latter's place in managing the farm, remaining with his mother and sister until 1906, when on account of his wife's health he took a trip with her to California, and carried on farming one year in that state. He returned to the old homestead, of one hundred and twenty acres, which he now owns, and besides general farming carried on extensive stock raising. The farm is situated in the midst of a fine farming country, and is one of the handsomest and most picturesque in the county. In 1907 Mr. Ballinger bought a half interest in a hardware business in Mt. Victory, known as C. E. Cook & Company, but eighteen months later sold his interest and returned to farming. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias of Mt. Victory, and belongs to the Christian church. He taken an active interest in public affairs, is a stanch Republican and has served two terms on the school board.

In 1900 Mr. Ballinger married Almary Fisher, who was born June 12, 1881, on the old historic Wheeler farm which was owned from 1875 until 1880 by her grandparents, John and Sarah (Barrett) Haley, who now reside in Goshen township. This farm is located on the Sandusky road. Mrs. Ballinger is a daughter of Alford and Mary (Haley) Fisher, the former of whom, an old pioneer of Dudley township, died in 1898, and the latter died in 1903. Alford Fisher's father was an attorney and served as justice of the peace. Besides Mrs. Ballinger Mr. Fisher and his wife had children as follows: John, of California; Ray, a barber, living in Missouri; Alford, a teacher in Goshen township; and Alpha, wife of Roy Rosebrook, living with Mr. and Mrs. Ballinger. Mr. and Mrs. Ballinger have one child, Zelma, aged six. Mrs. Ballinger is a member of the Christian church and of the Pythian Sisters. Mr. Ballinger has the largest maple-sugar grove in the county, the industry of sugar-making being but little carried on in this part of the state. The trees are the finest of their kind and yield a fine quality of sap.

Andrew J. Wallace, a retired farmer living in Taylor Creek township, was born in Fayette county, Ohio, March 27, 1827, son of William and Polly (Campbell) Wallace, both natives of Kentucky. William Wallace removed to Ohio and settled in Bell Center, in 1832. He bought a farm in the neighborhood and there spent the remainder of his life passing away in 1875, at the age of eighty-two years. His widow survived him a few years and died in 1881, at the age of eighty-two years. His father, Joseph Wallace, was a native of Virginia, and he and his wife both died in Kentucky. The children born to William and Polly Wallace were: Andrew J., of this sketch, and Elizabeth, wife of William Ramsey, of Bell Center, Ohio. Mr. Wallace had a brother who served in the war of 1812.

After receiving a good education in the public schools, Andrew J. Wallace helped his father with the work of carrying on the farm, until twenty-eight years of age, when he married and located on his present farm in Hardin county. He took up one hundred and twenty-three acres of land that was partly cleared, and has remained on the farm ever since, now owning three hundred and twenty-five acres in the homestead and two farms adjoining, altogether four hundred and fifty acres. Since 1907 he has lived a quiet, retired life and his interests are cared for by his son William, who manages the farm. Mr. Wallace is a Republican and has served as township trustee, during the time his home was included in Linn township. He is a member of the Presbyterian church of Bell Center. Mr. Wallace is a man of great industry and ambition, a useful, public-spirited citizen, and a farmer of intelligence and judgment.

Mr. Wallace married Caroline Laughlin, born in Guernsey county, Ohio, February 7, 1833, daughter of Hugh and Maria (Clark) Laughlin, natives of Pennsylvania, who located in Logan county, Ohio, in 1830. Her paternal grandfather was John Laughlin, and her maternal grandfather, Thomas Clark, was a Presbyterian minister. Mrs. Wallace died in April, 1898, mourned by a wide circle of friends. She was a woman of high character and worthy deeds and had done a great deal for the cause of religion and other objects. She was a member of the Presbyterian church. To Mr. Wallace and his wife children were born as follows: Cornelia, married C. Porter and they have three children,—Ivan, Ellen and Mabel; Edna, married E. E. Obenouer, of Bell Center, and they have four children,—Florence, James, John and Sterling; Elizabeth, married Joseph Emory, and they have two children,—Wallace and Gladys; Tad, married Thomas Mansfield, of Bell Center, and they have one child, Harry; and William, married Mary Hannah, daughter of William H. and Chloe Ann Wallace, bearing the same surname, but not a relative.

William Wallace has full charge of his father's farm and like his father is making a specialty of stock raising, which he carries on with great success. He has some registered sheep, "Dew Rock" hogs and standard bred horses. He has about six hundred sheep at present. He is one of the most extensive stock raisers and shippers of the township, and displays excellent management in his manner of conducting

his business. He is enterprising and progressive and prominent among the modern and up-to-date farmers of Hardin county. Mr. Wallace is a Republican, and although very popular in the community has never held office. He belongs to the Presbyterian church.

William J. Mathews.—One of the most enterprising and successful citizens of Hardin county, Ohio, is William J. Mathews, a native of the county, who was born in Washington township, November 4, 1856, son of Elihu and Margaret J. (Rusk) Mathews. He was one of a family of four children, of whom two survive Emmor S., of Washington township and himself. Elihu Mathews located in Cessna township in 1834, and taught school eighteen years. He later purchased a farm in Washington township, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was educated in Hardin county and became a prominent farmer and successful man. He was born in Crawford county, Ohio, in 1826, and died in September, 1909. His wife passed away in 1904.

W. J. Mathews was reared on a farm and attended the district school; later he was a student at the college at Ada, Ohio, and fitted himself for teaching. He was successfully engaged in this profession eight years, in Hardin county. After his marriage, in August, 1884 Mr. Mathews and his wife lived a year and a half in Washington township and then settled in Cessna township, where they own one hundred and sixty acres. He carries on general farming and is making a specialty of stock-raising, paying special attention to breeding Rambouillet sheep of pure blood.

Mr. Mathews is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church as is his wife and they belong to the church at Huntersville, Ohio. He was county secretary of the Sunday schools at one time, and is actively interested in church work. He is also a member of Pleasant Hill Grange and for four years was steward of the Ohio State Grange. Mr. Mathews has served his county and township in many useful positions. He is a man of quiet, unassuming manner, who is well known throughout the community and highly esteemed. He has made many friends, and his business relations have been pleasant and profitable. His land is located in section 8 and 17, in Cessna township, and he has made all modern improvements. The house is one of the best and most comfortable in the township, and the other buildings are in good order.

Mr. Mathews married Mamie E. Williamson, who was born in Pleasant township, March 18, 1861, daughter of Nathaniel and Serena (Davis) Williamson. Mrs. Mathews was educated in the district schools, Kenton high school and Ada Normal, and taught five years in the Hardin county schools.

Oren L. Williams is numbered among Hardin county's native sons and among its representative farmers and business men. He was born in McDonald township on the 6th of September, 1869, a son of James W. and Sarah J. (Lyles) Williams, in whose family were the following seven children: Fred, Lewis C. (deceased), Oren L., Rose, Norman, Sherman and Nora (deceased).

Oren L. Williams, the third born son and child in the family, was reared on the home farm in McDonald township, and during the days of his youth he supplemented his attendance in the district schools during the winter months with farm work in the summers, and thus continued until about his eighteenth year when he left the school room to give his undivided attention to farm work and to learning the carpenter's trade. After his marriage he settled on a farm in McDonald township, and on his twenty acres there he was engaged in general agricultural pursuits and at the work of his trade until he sold his land in that township to come to Lynn township. He is renting two hundred acres of land here, and follows a general line of farming. He has served as a member of the school board and as a health officer, and in politics he is a Republican voter.

On the 3d of November, 1888, Mr. Williams was married to Harriet J. Hesser, born in Eden township of Wyandot county, Ohio, September 13, 1871, and from Pleasant township in Hardin county, where she had located in about 1884, she came to McDonald township, where her father is still living. The six children of Mr. and Mrs. Williams are: Ernest J., born January 26, 1890; Ray, born October 5, 1891; Clara B., born September 19, 1893; Ina Blanche, born June 16, 1895; Lavina, born October 3, 1898; and Walter A., born January 19, 1901. Mr. Williams has membership relations with the Odd Fellows fraternity, affiliating with Amicitia Lodge, No. 79, and with Scioto Encampment, No. 179, at Kenton. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Foraker, and is now serving his church as a class leader.

William H. Kinnear has lived in and been identified with the interests of Hardin county throughout his entire life, and he owns one of the best farming estates in Lynn township. He was born in Pleasant township of Hardin county March 19, 1860, a son of F. D. and Mary J. (Caruthers) Kinnear, born respectively in Hardin county and in Pennsylvania. He was reared on a farm in Lynn township and attended its district schools. At the age of eighteen he left the school room to take up the active duties of farm life, but he remained at home with his parents until he was twenty-one. His present homestead farm contains one hundred acres of choice land in Lynn township, and there he is also extensively engaged in the raising of good stock, including horses, cattle and sheep, and he has been successful in both his general farming and stock-raising.

On the 15th of February, 1893, Mr. Kinnear was united in marriage with Miss Jessie May Fuls, who was born and reared in Lynn township, born on the 6th of January, 1872, a daughter of John H. Fuls. The two children of this union are Ilo J., born December 22, 1893; and Paul W., born December 1, 1897. The family are members of the Lynn Valley Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Kinnear is an active and efficient church worker, a class leader and a member of its board of trustees, and he is also the superintendent of the Sunday school. His political affiliations are with the Republican party.

DANIEL FLANAGAN

Daniel Flanagan, for many years editor and principal owner of the *Kenton Democrat*, died at his late home on North Main street on the 14th of February, 1901. He was born in county Clare, Ireland, in 1840, and came with his parents to this country in 1848. They landed at New Orleans, and later came to Butler county, Ohio, where the young man grew to mature years. From Butler county he went to the office of the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, where he learned the trade of a printer, and he remained there, after acquiring the trade, as a reporter upon the staff. His residence in Kenton dates from December 8, 1866, the Sunday on which the Catholic church of this city was dedicated by Archbishop Purcell. He soon made a bargain with Charles Zahm for the *Advocate*, supposed to be the organ of the Hardin county Democracy, but in those dark hours of Democracy immediately following the war it took a courageous man indeed to successfully publish a Democratic paper. But Daniel Flanagan demonstrated that he had the acquired ability. Changing the name of the paper to the *Kenton Democrat* he made it a paper that won for itself and its editor a reputation more than local. He was soon known over Ohio as the editor of one of the stanchest organs of Democracy, and yet while always a Democrat with an almost idolatrous devotion to party he so conducted himself among his fellows that he won many friends in the camp of his political enemies.

From 1879 until 1885 Mr. Flanagan edited the *Herald* of Delaware, D. S. Fisher, now of Warren, being the proprietor of the *Democrat*. While editing the *Herald* Mr. Flanagan secured control of the *Union Democrat* of Urbana and conducted the two papers for three years. In 1885, by a transfer of properties, he again assumed control of the *Kenton Democrat* and held it until his death. Associating with him his brother Thomas and his brother-in-law, Alfred Mathews, he erected a fine home for the *Democrat* on East Franklin street, and the paper has been issued from that office to the present time and is still in the control of Mr. Flanagan's children, who have associated with them their father's former partners. His good and faithful wife, who was Clotilda B. Mathews, a daughter of Bernard Mathews, deceased, one of Hardin county's most prominent and well-to-do pioneer citizens, preceded him in death. Mrs. Flanagan was a woman of the noblest attributes, a woman who was ever an influence to highest attainments of character, and one whose life was rich in deeds of kindness. It was truly said of her that she was one of God's loveliest creatures. Her death hastened that of Mr. Flanagan.

Daniel Flanagan was of a distinct type, a type of editors that is now fast disappearing. He was an editor in practice as well as theory; he was an editor who felt it his stern duty to be ever present at his office looking after the management of his paper. Rev. Father Siebenfoercher spoke truly over his bier, "Daniel Flanagan was a very busy man. He never went slowly. He seldom had time to rest." This was all very true, and had he been less a worker and had he been more willing to leave the responsibilities of the office partly resting upon other shoulders he might still be alive, but he was never content to do this, and he died a martyr to his work. That he died in the harness must have

been to his liking, for he was not one to enjoy ease. He would not have been content to retire from the editorial chair, and perhaps 'twere best that he should have been suddenly summoned. God moves in a mysterious way, and what we of earth often call a blow the great Creator of all would term a blessing.

Daniel Flanagan was not a child of wealth, but a creature of hard experience, a builder in the storm. Poverty and hardship have ever been the greatest school masters of the race and have forced into prominence many a man who otherwise would have remained unknown. Coming with his parents from Ireland at a tender age, settling in Ohio at a time when this was "the west" to our eastern brethren, the future editor early learned the lessons of labor in a great school, the office of the *Cincinnati Enquirer*. There he learned the newspaper trade from feeding the press to writing editorials. He had quickly shown the newspaper instinct, and though blessed with but a meager school education he soon developed into a witty, forceful and keen writer, and his associates of the Enquirer recognized his ability and power. With the ambition characteristic of the Celt young Flanagan was soon looking out for a paper of his own, and through the courtesy of the noted Bloss he came to Kenton and lived here all these years, mingling with its people, helping to build up the town and wielding a great and unmeasured influence as the editor of the oldest paper in the county. In the years that Mr. Flanagan presided over the *Kenton Democrat* he demonstrated to the people with whom he came in contact two things at least. He was brave enough to defend his opinions and his character was never failing. No one who knew Mr. Flanagan will deny this. Though he may have had his faults—and who has none— he possessed a charity that covers a multitude of sins. Though he may have been sometimes in the wrong—and no one is always in the right—he had the moral and physical courage to stand for the right as he saw it, and he never failed to defend his opinions and defend them with a vigor that caused his opponents much worry.

His life as the editor of the county organ of Democracy was much like the stormy petrel. He was always in the thick of the fight, and around him the smoke of political battle was ever circling. How strangely coincident that he should have entered his editorial career in Kenton at a time when his party, bleeding from the wounds of internecine strife, was ingloriously retreating, and he laid down his pen at a time when the same party, having wandered far from the teachings of its fathers, and met with the defeat foretold by him and others prominent in the party's counsels who were ever true to the teachings of the party's founders, was trying like the prodigal to find the path that led to the old homestead where there was a plenty and to spare. The editorial life of Mr. Flanagan was daily echoing to the din of battle, and yet he seemed to enjoy it. That he reveled in the conflict, that he thrived under stern opposition and prospered under bitter criticism were soon evidenced here. The *Democrat* had not long been under Mr. Flanagan's control before the party began to win back its former prestige. And this, too, in the face of the most bitter and uncompromising opposition of the

Republicans. In those days editors were more given to a newspaper exhibition of their personal animosities than now, and it is much to be questioned if any editor ever had to endure the bitter attacks that were made on Mr. Flanagan. No name was mean enough, no insinuation coarse enough for the Republican editors to apply to the young editor. Yet he stood it like a man. He thrived. His paper prospered. His party gained the offices. That was success.

It has often been asked why Daniel Flanagan did not obtain personally more reward for his work in behalf of party. The question is easily answered. Men of definite opinions and a courage to express them can never hope to succeed in politics. Daniel Flanagan was too pronounced in his views. He could not hope for office, but his work was not with the hope of office. He did it because he loved his party and he enjoyed work. He was proud of Democracy, and that he sometimes criticised the leaders of his party in these later days should only redound to the glory of his manly courage. Always a Democrat, too often most bitterly a partisan, yet he ever knew true worth when he saw it and he never failed to give one credit for faithful performance of duty, be the performer of what political persuasion he chose. This characteristic won many friends for Mr. Flanagan among Republicans, and they remained his friends all through a stormy life.

In business as in politics Mr. Flanagan was frank, quick to make up his mind, always ready to lend a hand. No business enterprise was started in this city during his residence here that Editor Flanagan did not aid in some way. He was the kind of a man that helps a town. He had ever a good word for Kenton and Kentonians, and his published words of encouragement for town and townsmen will remain an undying tribute to his memory. Public spirited to an extraordinary degree, generous to a fault, this man who might have been rich never amassed any considerable amount of this world's goods. He left the world poor as men count wealth but rich in kind words, noble acts and imperishable deeds. Too often, as Anthony said over the bier of the fallen Cæsar, "The evil that men do live after them, the good too oft is interred with their bones," but it was not so with Daniel Flanagan. His was an open life, his faults he did not conceal. He could not fawn nor flatter. He never tried to deceive. What he thought he said. If it were wrong the people at large knew it. They could condemn. If it were right he asked no praise. True to the inheritance of Irish parentage Daniel Flanagan was quick to take offense, quicker to forgive. If he erred he was willing to make amends. If he wronged any one his was the first voice to ask forgiveness. In many ways he was the living embodiment of that sound sensible advice of Thoreau, "Be resolutely and faithfully what you are, humbly what you aspire to be. Be sure you give men the best of your wares, though they be poor enough, and the gods will help you lay up a better store for the future. Man's noblest gift to man is his sincerity, for it embraces his integrity also."

And Daniel Flanagan is dead. His last copy has been edited, the page of his life book has been closed and the recording angel has closed the volume not again to be opened

Till the sun grows old
And the stars grow cold
And the leaves of the judgment book unfold.

Today he sleeps under the fir trees of yonder hill. The snow has wet with her pure tears the sod above his grave, the flowers of spring have given him the tribute of their perfume. Those who knew him living will revere him dead, and coming generations will learn from the lips of the present to honor his memory. And this by a contemporary was justly said of him: "When some future historian shall take up pen to tell of those who helped to make Kenton the model of thrift and industry that she is he will in justice to truth pay a tender tribute to Daniel Flanagan, printer, editor and citizen, but above all else a man."

H. M. Boroff, one of the representative farmers of Jackson township, owns one hundred acres of valuable land. He was born in Allen county, Ohio, in 1851, and as a child removed with his parents to Mercer county, Ohio, where he was educated in the public schools. When a young man he removed to Van Wert county, where he resided until after his marriage, in 1876. He is a son of Harrison and Rebecca (Ross) Boroff, of Mercer county, where they resided on a farm until their deaths. They were the parents of fifteen children, eleven of whom grew to maturity, namely: Amanda, Alfred, John, Nancy A., Elizabeth, H. M., Jacob, Richard and Jennie (twins), Benjamin and Lincoln.

H. M. Boroff removed to his present home in Hardin county in 1901; he is an enterprising and practical farmer, and having spent most of his life in this vocation has been very successful. Mr. Boroff is a public-spirited, loyal citizen, and stands well in the community. He is an earnest member of and worker in the Methodist Episcopal church, and belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. Boroff married Anna Ford, and they became the parents of six children, as follows: Orla; Glen, pastor of a church in the North Ohio Conference; Joseph, deceased; Florence; Hazel; Austin, deceased. Mrs. H. M. Boroff died in May, 1907.

Elmer S. Kaylor, prominent as a farmer and stock raiser in Cessna township, was born in Logan county, Ohio, May 22, 1868, a son of George F. and Christena (Houtz) Kaylor. George F. Kaylor was a son of Reuben Kaylor, who came from his native state Pennsylvania with his family to Logan county, Ohio, and spent the remainder of his life there. His son George became a farmer and stockman there, but finally moved from there to Auglaize county and still later to Hardin county. From Pleasant township, where he had first located on coming to Hardin county, he came to Cessna township in March, 1886, establishing his home on the farm now owned by his sons, Elmer and Claudius, and there he passed away in death in 1888. His widow still survives him and is living in Kenton. She is a daughter of John Houtz, born in Pennsylvania.

Elmer S. Kaylor was a lad of eighteen years when he came with

the family to Cessna township, and the educational training which he had previously gained in the district schools was supplemented by study in the schools of Ada, Ohio. In association with his brother, Claudius C. Kaylor, he owns four hundred and twenty-two acres of land in one body in Cessna township, and he has gained a wide reputation as a stock raiser, raising principally sheep, hogs, cattle and horses. He is an influential local worker in the ranks of the Democratic party, and has served his township as a justice of the peace and as a trustee and treasurer.

Mr. Kaylor's wife was before marriage Mary Cessna, a daughter of the late Zack Cessna, and she was born and reared in Cessna township. The seven children which have blessed their marriage union are Maloda C., Lulu I., George B., Clay C., Elmer E., Harry I. and Hugh W. Mr. Kaylor is a member in high standing of the Salem Methodist Episcopal church, and he is serving his church as a steward and trustee and as a member of its Sunday school. He also has membership relations with the Grange and with the Modern Woodmen of America.

ALPHEUS MCCONNELL.—A man of sound judgment and much ability, Alpheus McConnell, residing in McDonald township, Hardin county, is intimately associated with the development of the agricultural and industrial interests of his community as a carpenter and farmer. A son of Hugh McConnell, he was born, October 11, 1842, in Medina county. Hugh McConnell was born of German parents December 1, 1811, in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, but was reared in Wayne county, Ohio, where his parents settled when he was a child. After his marriage he moved to Medina county, from there coming, in 1853, to Hardin county, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying April 5, 1859. He married Mary Lance, who was born in Pennsylvania, December 13, 1811, and as a girl came with her parents to Wayne county, Ohio. She survived her husband, passing away in April, 1870.

Obtaining his early education in the common schools of Medina and Hardin counties, Alpheus McConnell became familiar with the labors incidental to farm life when young, and also developed his natural mechanical ability by learning the trade of a carpenter. He has since followed farming and carpentering in McDonald township, where he is numbered among the esteemed, valued and trustworthy citizens. During the Civil war Mr. McConnell enlisted, September 16, 1864, in the One Hundred and Seventy-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served until receiving his honorable discharge June 17, 1865, being on guard duty at Nashville, Tennessee, the greater part of the time. He is an uncompromising Republican in politics, and is now one of the trustees of McDonald township.

Mr. McConnell married, April 5, 1863, Polly Paver, a daughter of James and Ruth (Meredith) Paver, former residents of Buck township. Mr. Paver died June 23, 1880, in Hardin county, and Mrs. Paver died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. McConnell, January 3, 1887. Eight children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. McConnell, namely: Sarah Ella, born January 21, 1864, married George Washington Stram,

and they have one child, Erma Stram; Calvin Llewellyn, born October 5, 1866, lives with his parents; Carrie May, born November 28, 1869, married Elmer Decker, of McDonald township, and two children have been born to them, Howard, who died at the age of three years, and Raymond; Edith Estella, born May 14, 1873, married Alec Given MacDonald, and died April 13, 1909, leaving her husband and four sons, Lloyd Adlai, Leo Vernon, Paul Ernest and Percy Given; Charlie, living at Grand Rapids, Michigan, born April 10, 1875, married Edna Fuller, of Michigan, and they have one child, Harold Donald; Mertie Ann, born July 10, 1877, married Henry H. Harvey, of Kenton, and they have two children, Walter Enoch and Louis Alpheus; Howard Harvey, born July 23, 1880, married Eva Snyder, and to them four children have been born, Elsie Ellen, Mary Wilma, Charlie Grey and Mertie; and Earl Wayne, the youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. McConnell, born August 12, 1883, married September 18, 1909, Mary Varvel.

Thomas Cochran Dodds.—Noteworthy among the active and energetic men that have made farming their life occupation and in its pursuit have met with much success is Thomas Cochran Dodds of McDonald township, Hardin county. A native of this county, he was born, October 21, 1857, in Buck township, on the Kenton-Ridgeway pike, a son of the late John Dodds, of Scotch-Irish lineage.

John Dodds was born, in 1806, in Pennsylvania, being one of a family of seven children, of whom one son, Joseph Dodds, born in 1792, served in the war of 1812, and subsequently lived to the venerable age of ninety-four years. John Dodds married, in Champaign county, Ohio, Nancy Gary, who was born in 1822, at Louisburg, Champlain county. Of the children born of their union two served in the Civil war, Andrew and Joseph. Andrew Dodds was a private in the army and died during the war, in 1863. Joseph Dodds, now residing in Ridgeway, Hardin county, enlisted in the Union army in 1861, and served until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged from the service. He took an active part in many important engagements, and at the battle of Missionary Ridge was wounded in the right shoulder.

Receiving a practical education in the rural schools of Hardin county, Thomas Cochran Dodds began his career as a wage earner in William Dodds' saw mill, in which he was employed for four years. Renting then the farm of Joseph McArthur, he managed it for a year, and then leased from his brother ninety-five acres of timbered land, twenty of which he cleared. Five years later Mr. Dodds rented the sixty-five-acre farm belonging to Charles McGinnis, and was there employed in tilling the soil five years. The following seven years he carried on his chosen occupation on the Breen farm of one hundred and forty-four acres. Moving then to the Tom Espy homestead, he tilled its ninety acres for three years, after which he lived on the Henry Pfeiffer place for a year. Returning then to the Breen farm, Mr. Dodds was there engaged in general farming for six years. In March 1903, he bought his present place of ten acres, and in its improvement has met with well deserved success. A decided Republican in politics,

Mr. Dodds has served as assessor of his township, and is now township trustee.

Mr. Dodds married, March 4, 1875, Mary A. McGinnis, daughter of John and Katherine (Muller) McGinnis, of McDonald township. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dodds, namely: Demar Dorothy, Ora, Bertha, Nettie, Maggie, John O., Benjamin, Fred, George, Nancy Elizabeth, Thomas Gary, Ernest and Herma, twins, and Leo and Fred. Nancy E., Thomas G., Ernest and Herma died in childhood. Demar Dorothy Dodd, born in June, 1876, died on the 27th of February, 1909. She married Daniel Vermilion, and they became the parents of six children, namely: Mildred, who died in infancy; Clara, Golda, Clarence, Etta, and Mary. Ora Dodds, deceased, married Cyrus Negley, of McDonald township, and to them five children were born, namely: Eva, deceased; Homer; Zena; Joe; and Harry, deceased. Bertha Dodds, who married D. H. Lowry, became the mother of four children, namely: Robert, deceased; Ray; Harry; and Eva Naomi. Nettie Dodds married William Fultz, and they have three children, Ernest, Earl and Edith. Maggie, who married Frank Hites, became the mother of two children, Oney, deceased and Calley.

Alfred Hites.—A man of industry, enterprise and ability, Alfred Hites, of McDonald township, occupies an assured position among the successful agriculturists of the Buckeye state, of whom, mayhap, no other county can boast so large a number in proportion to its population as Hardin. A son of the late George Hites, he was born in this township March 3, 1848, coming from German ancestry.

A native of Rockingham county, Virginia, George Hites was born, July 14, 1815. As a young man he migrated to the western frontier, locating in Carroll county, where he lived until after his marriage. In 1839 he bought sixty-two and one-half acres of wild land in McDonald township, Hardin county, and having by dint of sturdy pioneer labor cleared a large part of it he subsequently bought another timbered tract of equal area, and continued his agricultural work. On the homestead which he redeemed from the wilderness he spent the remainder of his life, passing away May 15, 1898. He married, in Carroll county, Ohio, Elizabeth Hatfield, who was born March 15, 1815, and died November 10, 1896. To them six children were born, namely: William, of Kenton, married Caroline Spencer, and of the seven children born of their union four died in infancy, Adam died at the age of three months, and the other two, Anna and Arthur Banning, are residents of Hardin county; Mary Ann, born June 9, 1840, died in 1842; Marianna, born September 30, 1849, died in the same year; Alfred, the special subject of this sketch; Nancy Jane, who was born June 4, 1852, and died March 2, 1874, married P. Sumner, of Roundhead, and had one child, now deceased; and George Westley, born July 20, 1857, died August 14, 1857.

Educated in the district schools, Alfred Hites was early initiated into the mysteries of farming, and finding that occupation congenial to his tastes as well as profitable he has since devoted his attention to the

pursuit of agriculture. He now owns forty-eight and one-half acres of the land belonging formerly to the parental homestead, and in its care and management has met with most satisfactory results. Politically a stanch supporter of the principles of the Republican party, Mr. Hites has never shirked the responsibilties of public office, but has served as township supervisor and as a school director. Religiously he is a valued member of the Baptist church.

On December 2, 1875, Mr. Hites was united in marriage with Alice Willard, who was born, May 24, 1858, in Mercer county, Missouri, a daughter of the late Joseph Willard. Mr. Willard was twice married, by his first wife having three children, namely: John Henry, who served in the Civil war, and was killed in battle; Martha Jane; and Mary Elizabeth. Mr. Willard married for his second wife Elizabeth Hudnut, and of the children born of their union six grew to mature life, as follows: William; James; Emeline; Joseph Fremont, deceased; Alice, wife of Mr. Hites; and Jennie. William Willard, a resident of Holmes county, Ohio, married first Mary Berry, who died in early womanhood, leaving one child, Jennie, of Cleveland. William married for his second wife Minnie MacLean, and they have had the following children: Dalmar; Jennie, deceased; Harry; and Fannie. James Willard, who lives in Iowa, married Rachel McGinnis, and to them five children have been born, Thomas; Clara Belle; Effie; Robert; and a child that died in infancy. Emeline Willard, of Wayne county, widow of the late John Saunders, bore him six children, Frank, deceased; Thomas, a resident of Wayne county; Idell, deceased; Jennie, wife of Harvey Burnett, has two children; Hazel, wife of Harry Cliff, has one child; and Maggie residing with her mother. Jennie Willard, Mrs. Hites' youngest sister, married John Shearer, of Holmes county, and they became the parents of the following named children: Blanche Shearer, married Edward Hostetter, and has three children, John, Frank, and Arthur; John F. Shearer, living at home; Edna Shearer married John Stink, of Pittsburg, and has four children; Charles Shearer, single, resides with his parents; Harry Shearer, also living at home; Walter, living at home; and Rachel Shearer, deceased.

Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hites, namely: a child that died in infancy; Rosette; Erma Virginia; Bertha; Homer Emerson; Leslie Harrison, living with his parents; and Blanche, living at home. Rosette Hites, the oldest daughter, married Charles Hannakrat, of Logan county, Ohio, and into their home five children have been born, namely: Grace Reed, living with her grandparents; Myrl; Daisy Verona; Alice Odessa, deceased; and Ethel Virginia. Erma Virginia Hites married George MacFarland, of Kenton, Ohio. Bertha Hites, who married Virgil Simpson, died in January, 1906, leaving two children, Gladys Simpson, deceased; and Paul Simpson. Homer Emerson Hites married Clementine Coolidge and they have two children, Opal Idelle and Arol May.

Albert B. Charles was born and reared in Richland county, Ohio, and settled in Ada in early manhood, beginning his career as a grain

MR. AND MRS. JACOB VASSAR

J. E. Passar and Family

dealer. A man of marked financial and executive ability, he became prominent in the affairs of the city, and served not only as cashier of the Citizens' Bank but was mayor of Ada and a member of its school board. In 1885 he was elected treasurer of Hardin county, and re-elected to the same office in 1887, serving until his death in 1888. He was a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and of the Knights of Pythias, in each organization taking great interest. He married Autha Morehead, who was born in Richland county, near Mansfield, and is now living in Kenton, Ohio. Of the three children born of their union, one died in infancy, and two are living, namely: Eugene, mentioned below, and Arthur B., of Seattle, Washington.

A man of undoubted integrity and worth, Eugene Charles holds high rank among the more intelligent and popular business men of Hardin county, which he is now serving acceptably as county treasurer. A resident of Kenton, he has spent the larger part of his life within its limits, and has taken an active part in advancing its best interests. He was born, August 14, 1875, at Ada, Hardin county. A boy of eleven years when he came to Kenton, he was here educated, and in 1893 began life on his own account as deputy clerk in the office of the county treasurer. He was subsequently assistant cashier of the Kenton National Bank, holding that position from November, 1895, until September, 1907, when he assumed his present office as county treasurer of Hardin county, to which he was elected in 1906 and reelected in 1908. Mr. Charles is a Democrat in politics, and a member of the Masonic order, in which he has taken three degrees, and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Mr. Charles is one of the younger generation of men, and is not only a prominent member of business, political and social circles, but is one who, continuing his useful activities, will, without doubt, become connected with more important events of town, county and state.

James Ezra Vassar.—One of the most successful farmers and stockmen of Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, Ohio, is James Ezra Vassar, who was born on his present homestead November 11, 1867, a son of Jacob and Mary (Corwin) Vassar. Jacob Vassar was born in Logan county, Ohio, October 4, 1837, and was a son of Daniel Vassar, a native of New Jersey. Daniel Vassar was accidentally killed by a horse in 1862, at the age of about forty-seven years. He moved to Ohio from Virginia as a young man, settling in Logan county, where he carried on his trade of a carpenter. He was married in Logan county, to Mary Ann Kerns, and he and his family afterwards removed to Missouri, where he died.

After acquiring his education in the public school, Jacob Vassar remained with his parents until his marriage, at the age of twenty-two years, and then settled on the present home in Hardin county. He settled in the woods, proceeded to clear land and erected the present home. He first cleared thirty acres, then added sixty acres more. He became very successful as a farmer and also became a timber-worker, making staves by hand, in which manner he paid for his home. He

started for Minnesota in 1863, then enlisted in the Civil war as a teamster and driver for one year, later fired an engine on a steamboat, in the employ of the government, for hauling supplies. At the close of the war he returned to his home and carried on farming until his death, July 10, 1895. He was one of the charter members of the Church of Christ of Ridgeway, and politically was a Democrat, though he never cared for public office. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the local Grange.

On September 24, 1857, Jacob Vassar married Mary Corwin, a native of Pickaway county, Ohio, born April 6, 1840, a daughter of Daniel Corwin, a native of Logan county, Ohio, who later moved to Scotland county, Missouri. He died in 1900, at the age of eighty-eight years. Mr. Corwin married Nancy Williams, who died in 1850. Jacob Vassar's widow survives him, has now reached the age of seventy years and resides with her son James E. The other children who survive are as follows: Lydia, wife of J. S. Ludenburg, a farmer of Michigan; Nancy, wife of B. Britton, an attorney; Olive, wife of Thomas Hauser, of Patterson, Ohio; Thomas K., of Bellefontaine; and Daniel, a farmer of Hale township. Besides these there are two daughters and two sons deceased. Mrs. Vassar is a member of the Church of Christ.

The education of James Ezra Vassar was obtained in the public schools, after which he began working on a farm. When twenty-two years old he began working for his father, and worked three years on the old home, farming and raising stock. He then moved to Logan county, where he carried on a farm five years, after which he returned to the home farm and bought out the other heirs. He carries on general farming and pays special attention to stock raising. He owns one specially fine registered horse, "Harold," aged four, of English Shire stock which was imported by the Hartman Importing Company, of Columbus, also a fine road horse, "Noki" No. 41512, also aged four years. He also owns several other brood mares and colts.

Politically Mr. Vassar is a Democrat, and is active in the interests of his party. In 1906 he was elected a justice of the peace of Taylor Creek township, and is serving in his second term. He is a a charter elder of the Church of Christ. He is an enterprising and ambitious and business-like farmer, and carries on his work by modern methods and in accordance with modern ideas. He can remember many hardships he and the members of his family had to bear during his youthful days; he well recalls that at one time a heavy storm killed a cow which was the main support of the family.

In 1889 Mr. Vassar married Cinda Gardner, born November 11, 1873, daughter of Freeman Gardner, who died in 1909, at the age of eighty-five years. Mr. Gardner was a native of Pennsylvania and one of the pioneers of Hardin county. He married Joan Jennings, who survives him and has now reached the age of eighty-four years. Mrs. Vassar died March 14, 1908, after nearly twenty years of happy wedded life, having been in delicate health for years. She was a patient sufferer and her mild and beautiful nature was loved by all who knew her,

She had a large circle of friends, who held her friendship in high esteem and admired her personality. Her loss was widely mourned, by her fellow church members especially, and by all who knew her. She was an active worker in the Presbyterian church, of which she was a member. Mr. Vassar and his wife had children as follows: Randall, born October 29, 1890, at home; Joseph, born July 30, 1892; Pauline, born November 2, 1897; and Jacob Gardner, born December 26, 1898. Mr. Vassar is well known in the community, where he has spent almost his entire life, and is greatly respected.

Samuel Hiram Faltner, a well known and prosperous agriculturist of Hardin county, residing in McDonald township, has for many years been an able assistant in developing and advancing the farming interests of this part of the state. A son of the late Vance Faltner, he was born, December 10, 1866, in Logan county. For a number of years Vance Faltner resided in Logan county, but at the time of his death, in November, 1909, was a resident of Columbus, Ohio. He was twice married. He married first, a Miss Brown, by whom he had three children, namely: Anna, James and Samuel Hiram. Anna married William Fisher, of Bellefontaine, and of the four children born of their union two are living, Roy and Ethel May. James, the second child, resides in Louisiana. Vance Faltner married for his second wife Mary Ann Watt, and their only child, Jesse Faltner, died when fourteen years old.

His mother dying when he was an infant, Samuel Hiram Faltner was brought up by Mr. and Mrs. James Ford, who cared for him as tenderly as if he were their own child. He was educated in the district schools, and during his entire life has devoted his time and energies to the cultvation of the soil, which at his touch yields abundant harvests, his well kept and well managed farm being one of the best improved in Roundhead township. Mr. Faltner is a steadfast Republican, having voted that ticket for twenty-two years, but he has never been an aspirant for political honors, neither has he ever joined any secret organization.

James Ford, Mr. Faltner's foster father, was successfully engaged in general farming until 1894, when he located in McDonald township, Hardin county, where he has since resided, an honored and respected citizen. He married, September 16, 1841, Louisa Emeline Goodnow, who was born in Champaign county, Ohio, February 14, 1825. Her father, Levi Goodnow, was born, in 1790, in Vermont, and there married Cynthia Beebee, whose birth occurred in that state in 1796. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Ford, namely: John Riley, Elmira, Clara Josephine, Levi R., Edward Sheldon, Sarah Jane, William Frank and Louisa Ellen. John Riley Ford, the first born, died March 16, 1848. Elmira, who married Ira Downing, of Kenton, Ohio, died December 30, 1867, leaving one child, Luther Downing. Clara Josephine Ford died November 13, 1870. Levi R. Ford, the fourth child in succession of birth, died June 15, 1897. He married, June 13, 1867, Elizabeth Hews, and to them were born children as follows: Jesse E., who lived but three months; William C., living at Saint Marys, married Ida Whitehead; Clara Ellen, wife of Tim Bogan, of Saint Marys, has had six

children, of whom but two are living, Ruth and Georgia Ellen; Nora Emeline, wife of John Cawlick, of Lake View, has had two children, Wessie Ford, deceased, and Dorothy May; James Alexander, deceased; Clara S., deceased and Jesse Elmer, deceased. Edward Sheldon Ford, the fifth child in order of birth, born August 9, 1850, died June 11, 1909. Sarah Jane Ford, born October 21, 1853, married Ephraim Young, and of their union four children were born, Earl, who married a young lady of Troy, Illinois; Mary Emeline, of Troy; Bertha, wife of a Mr. Stephens; and James, the oldest child of Mr. and Mrs. Young, died in May, 1903. William Frank Ford, who died in January, 1899, married Rachel Sunderland, who has also passed to the life beyond. They became the parents of nine children, as follows: Glenna, wife of Francis Hankins, has one child, Eliza; Naomi, wife of Venton Engle, of Wapakoneta, has one child, Ruth Engle; Ida died at the age of eleven years; James George, deceased; and five children that died in infancy, the two next to the last being twins. Louisa Ellen Ford, who married Jesse T. Bowdle, of Roundhead township, became the mother of three children, namely: Pearl, wife of Stuart Fisher, postmaster at Roundhead, has one child, Louisa Katherine; Oryl, deceased; and Irwin, of Roundhead, who married Edna Young.

Andrew Breitenstin, a substantial and successful farmer of Dudley township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born in Franklin county, Ohio, May 3, 1855, and is a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Enggasser) Breitenstin. The former was born in Baden, Germany, and died in Ohio, in 1869, at the age of fifty-two years, three months and twenty-seven days. He came with his wife and one child to America, February 19, 1850, spending a short time at New Orleans. Mrs. Breitenstin died October 9, 1904, at the age of eighty years. Two years after reaching New Orleans they moved to Columbus, Ohio, and in 1865 located in Hardin county, where they bought forty acres of land in Dudley township. Three years later they located on the old Richley farm in Goshen township, where Mr. Breitenstin died. He was a member of the German Lutheran church, a Democrat in political affairs and actively interested in the success of his party. Besides Andrew their children were: Theodore, a farmer of Goshen township; Esther, wife of Fred Born, of Goshen township; and Elizabeth, deceased.

The youth of Andrew Breitenstin was passed on a farm, and he attended the country schools until fifteen years of age. After the death of his father he worked on the homestead which his mother purchased, and remained with her until her death. He purchased an additional forty acres and lived on the home farm until 1904, when he sold his interest and bought his present farm where he has made all possible improvements. He makes a specialty of stock raising and is a prosperous and energetic farmer. He has earned his success through his own efforts, and always been industrious and ambitious. He is a member of St. John's church in Goshen township, of which he has served as trustee. Politically he is a Democrat but has never cared for public office.

On September 15, 1881, Mr. Breitenstin married Anna Gertrude Bishop, who was born March 28, 1858, in Hardin county, daughter of George Bishop. Her father was born in Hessen, Germany, and at the age of thirty-seven years came to the United States and settled in Goshen township, Hardin county. Five years later he sold out and located in Buck township, where he spent the remainder of his life and died in November, 1891, at the age of seventy-eight years. His wife, Catherine Elizabeth Roeder, died in 1902, at the age of eighty-five years. Mrs. Breitenstin's grandfather, Michael Bishop, married Elizabeth Fink. Besides Mrs. Breitenstin her parents had children as follows: Elizabeth, born December 28, 1840, widow of George Roeder, and two, the oldest and youngest, deceased. Mrs. Breitenstin is a member of St. John's church, and is an active worker in the Ladies' Society connected with the church.

To Mr. Breitenstin and his wife four children were born, namely: George William, born January 2, 1883, married Luella Abbott and they have two children: Frieda Marie and Dorothy May; John Jacob, born February 13, 1885, single and living at home; Leo Theodore, born December 29, 1889, living at home with his parents; and Fred Edward, born December 30, 1891, also living at home.

Otis Daniel Brungard.—Among the energetic, enterprising and far-sighted men who are contributing their full share towards the development and advancement of the commercial prosperity of Hardin county is Otis Daniel Brungard, who as a miller, grain dealer and shipper, is carrying on a substantial business. A son of the late John Brungard, he was born, February 1, 1871, in Mahoning county, Ohio, in New Middletown. His grandfather, George Brungard, a native of Maryland, migrated to Ohio in the year 1832, locating in Springfield township, Mahoning county.

Brought up on the home farm, John Brungard began life for himself as a merchant, for five years being located in New Middletown. Subsequently removing to Wooster, Ohio, he was there for three years engaged in the milling business, running a flour mill and elevator. Going then to Pittsburg, he was there similarly employed for ten years. In 1885 having disposed of his interests in that place, and of his farm in Mahoning county, he came to Ridgeway, and here founded the milling and grain business now carried on so successfully by his sons, it being the most extensive plant of the kind between the lake and Columbus, Ohio. Here he resided until his death, March 27, 1906. He was a valued member of the Reformed church, and was active in public affairs, being a man of ability and eminent trustworthiness. He served several years as a trustee of Mahoning county; was treasurer of Ridgeway; and was the first president of the Ridgeway Banking Company. He married Elizabeth Young, who was born, April 11, 1844, in Germany, and came to this country with her parents at the age of ten years. She passed to the life beyond June 13, 1891. Five children were born of their union, namely: Ella, deceased; George C., a grain dealer at West Mansfield; Otis D., the subject of this brief sketch; Laura Barbara, wife

of John McGill, of Poland, Ohio; and John, of whom a short sketch may be found on another page in this volume.

Attending the common schools as a boy, Otis Daniel Brungard was brought up on the home farm until sixteen years of age, when he entered the Heidelberg University, at Tiffin, where he continued his studies until 1889. Turning his attention then to the reading of medicine, he was graduated from the Western Pennsylvania Medical College, in Pittsburg, in 1897, with the degree of M. D., and for four years was engaged in the practice of his profession at Edinburg, Pennsylvania. After the death of his father, Mr. Brungard, in partnership with his brothers succeeded to the grain business established by their father, and have continued it since with marked success. This firm, Brungard Brothers, which was incorporated with a capital of $50,000, purchased, in 1907, the Big Springs Mill and elevator, and with their elevator at Horton, built in 1904, is carrying on an extensive business, handling on an average two hundred thousand bushels of grain annually. Mr. Brungard, true to the religious faith in which he was reared, is a member of the Reformed church, and fraternally he belongs to Lodge No. 588, A. F. & A. M., of West Mansfield.

Mr. Brungard married, July 11, 1906, Ina McElhaney, who was born, March 11, 1883, in Ridgeway, a daughter of Robert McElhaney. Mr. McElhaney was born in Ireland sixty-seven years ago. Emigrating to this country in 1864, he settled in Hardin county, where he was for a while engaged in farming. In 1875 he opened a store of general merchandise at Ridgeway, becoming a pioneer merchant of this place. He married Cornelia A. Dugan, who was born in Franklin county, Ohio, a daughter of Michael and Sarah Dugan, her birth occurring in 1856. Mr. and Mrs. Brungard have one child, a boy born January 25, 1910, named Otis D. Brungard.

Alfred K. Raney.—One of the strongest forces in the public and industrial life of Hardin county for many years has been found in Alfred K. Raney, whose life span of many decades has been years of purposes well directed, who has made for himself a place in connection with the activities and honors of life and who has successfully surmounted obstacles and gained recognition for intrinsic worth of character.

Alfred K. Raney was born in Franklin county, Ohio, June 13, 1837, a son of Benjamin and a grandson of Adam Raney, who came from his native land of Germany and established his home in Franklin county, Ohio, there remaining until his death. Benjamin, his son, born near Groveport, Ohio, died in October of 1840, when fifty-eight years of age. After leaving the school room he farmed with his father until his marriage, at that time entering some land for himself, and clearing it he continued its cultivation until his death, also erecting and operating for fifteen years a tannery. He was a good Christian man, a member of the Methodist church. Of the children born to him and his wife, nee Mary Arnold, three are now living: Benjamin, whose home is in Huntington, Indiana; Margaret, the widow of Charles Goodman and a

resident of Kokomo, that state; and Alfred K. Mrs. Raney died at the home of Catharine Funk, an older daughter in Kokomo in 1904, at the age of seventy-six years.

One of his parents' nine children and one of the three surviving ones, Alfred K. Raney, after his father's death, remained with the five youngest of the children with his mother on the homestead, but at the early age of twelve he began working for others at whatever a boy could find to do, thus earning sufficient means to continue his schooling in the fall, this including one term in a select school in Stark county. After his marriage in the spring of 1858 he located at old Fort McArthur, and the log house which he built there with its corner posts was the first of its kind in Hardin county. He left there in 1880, in the meantime having purchased one hundred and fifty acres in Hale township, and building a substantial residence, and in 1897 he left that Hale township farm to come to Taylor Creek township, here purchasing his farm opposite Grange Hall. He followed a general line of farming, making the raising of Jersey cattle, Poland China hogs and sheep a special feature of his business, and he has the largest yoe sheep in Hardin county, the animal weighing three hundred pounds. He is also interested in a patent mower, for which he invented a swath cleaner and improved swath board and which he had patented in the United States and in Canada.

While Mr. Raney has ever been faithful in citizenship and in civil life, his military career also redounds to his credit as a loyal and faithful soldier of the Union. On the 28th of July, 1862, he enlisted in Company I, Forty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, as a private under Lieutenant England, and for three years he served with the Army of General Burnside. While following Morgan through Ohio, Mr. Raney received his first wound, and following General Sherman to Kenesaw Mountain, Georgia, June 28, 1864, he was shot through the back of the neck, the same bullet wounding another soldier. They lay under the entrenchments on the field until carried to a place of safety, and when partially recovered were taken to a division hospital for treatment. While on a three days' absence from the hospital Mr. Raney visited his regiment and finding no commanding officer of his rank he took charge and participated in the second day's fight at Nashville, Tennessee. He received his first promotion as second lieutenant on the 10th of November, 1863, while on the 10th of February, 1864, he was commissioned a first lieutenant, promoted to captain February 6, 1865, mustered out of the service on the 12th of the following June at Camp Harker, Tennessee, as a brevet major. Shortly after his return home Mr. Raney was elected the sheriff of Hardin county, entering the office the 1st of January, 1866, and during the years 1883-4-5-6 he represented his county in the state legislature. Throughout his membership in the house, covering two terms, he was a member of the Soldiers, Sailors and Orphans Home at Xenia, Ohio, and against great odds he succeeded in gaining for the home an appropriation of eight hundred dollars for a training blacksmith shop to be installed therein, and Mr. Raney got a bill passed to erect a new county jail costing $40,000. His labors as a

legislator were far reaching and effective. During the World's Fair at Chicago he was commissioned to represent Hardin county on wheat in the agricultural department. Since 1902 he has served as a justice of the peace in Taylor Creek township, and on the 31st of October, 1890, he was greatly honored by being made the department commander of a Union veteran organization, with headquarters at Kenton. He is a member and has served in all the offices of Silver Creek Grange, No. 1570, is a member and a past officer of the Odd Fellows fraternity, and is a member of the United Methodist church. He is also a member and the commander of the Grand Army post at Roundhead. He with a number of others were the builders of the first graveled pike which was built one and a half miles out on the Kenton and Lima road.

On the 30th of September, 1856, Mr. Raney was married to Elizabeth Smith, and they became the parents of the following children: Jessie D., whose home is in Columbus; Lydia, the wife of Harris Stevenson, and they have four children; Mattie, wife of William Winner, of Silver Creek, and they have eight children, the eldest son being also married and having one child; and Eveline, also in Columbus. Mr. Raney married for his second wife Lulu Kremplebein, a daughter of John and Mary Kremplebein, and they have a daughter, Dorsey, aged fourteen years and now in school.

William H. Getz, one of the representative farmers of Washington township, Hardin county, Ohio, has resided here for nearly two decades, and since 1897 has owned his present farm, which comprises a hundred acres of choice and valuable land. Mr. Getz is a native of Snyder county, Pennsylvania, and was born and reared on a farm, the date of his birth being November 29, 1856. His parents, Henry and Caroline (Booger) Getz, both natives of the "Keystone State," had a family of eight children, namely: Mary, William H., Perry D., George M., Catherine E., Emma C., John and Daniel W. The last two named are deceased. Henry Getz, the father, was born on the 28th of February, 1831, and died on July 14, 1899. He was a soldier in the Civil war, Company H, One Hundred and Ninety-ninth Regiment, Pennsylvania Infantry. He enlisted, in 1863, for one year, at the end of which time he was honorably discharged; then he reenlisted, and remained with his command until the close of hostilities, when he again received an honorable discharge. During his service he was an active participant in several hotly contested battles; he received two slight wounds, one on the back of his neck and the other on his hand, and he returned home with a record for valor and fearlessness.

In 1877, on reaching his majority, William H. Getz left the old home in Pennsylvania and went to Arlington, Hancock county, Ohio, where he remained until 1888. Since that date he has been a resident of Washington township, Hardin county, his postoffice being Williamstown. During this time he has been honored with local office. For over six years he was township trustee and for the past nine years he has been a member of the school board. He began life in Hardin county with only eleven dollars and fifty cents and a wife.

In 1888, in his native county, Mr. Getz married Miss Jane E. Greenhoe, and seven children have been given to them, namely: Mary E., who is now the wife of J. E. Moses; Vernon C., who married Miss Margaret West; Mabel D.; Ralph H.; Ruth; Leonard, and a child that died in infancy. Mr. Getz is a Christian gentleman, a worthy member of the Presbyterian church, and by his upright, honorable life he has won the esteem of his fellow citizens.

Mr. Reuben Greenhoe, father of Mrs. Getz, was in the Civil war for three years and died at the age of sixty-five on May 27, 1899. He was born and always lived in Snyder county, Pennsylvania, a tanner by trade and a good one. His wife's name was Rachel (Winter) Greenhoe. She died aged sixty-four and was also a native of Synder county, Pennsylvania. They had eight children: Anna, Jane, Charles, died when small, Mary, Frank (deceased), Jacob (deceased), Libbie and William. All live in Pennsylvania but Libbie, who lives in New Jersey.

A. J. Garmon is one of the agriculturists of Washington township, where he owns a splendidly improved estate of one hundred and thirty-six acres of choice farming land and on which he raises the best of crops. This farm has been purchased at various times since his removal to Hardin county in 1881, and as a whole it is a valuable and desirable property. Thirty-six acres of the tract were purchased in 1893, fifty acres in 1898 and the remaining fifty in 1902, and new and splendid buildings now complete this estate. Mr. Garmon was born in Hancock county, Ohio, in 1865, being there also reared and educated, and reaching man's estate he chose farming as his vocation. He is a son of John and Catherine (Miller) Garmon, who came from their native commonwealth of Pennsylvania to Hancock county, Ohio, during an early period in the county's history, in 1858, and they owned a farm of sixty acres there. Their children were as follows: Fannie, Clara, Trella, Franklin, Delilah, A. J. and Millie. John Garmon was born in Pennsylvania in 1840, and died in Washington township, Hardin county, Ohio, in 1903. He came here in 1881, and became the owner of a farm of eighty-seven and a half acres, the present home of his widow. She has reached the age of seventy-four years.

A. J. Garmon has been twice married, wedding first Miss Nora E., a daughter of W. K. and Lucretia Zehner, and she died in 1902, leaving two children, Edna L. and Lauren. Mr. Garmon married for his second wife Miss Florence A. Zehner, a sister of his former wife. The second marriage was solemnized in 1904. They belong to the Grange.

Dr. Usher Parsons Leighton, who was for many years associated with the political and public circles of Kenton, Ohio, and vicinity, belonged to a family that has lived for many generations in America, and they have taken their part in promoting general welfare and progress wherever found. Usher P. Leighton was born at Eliot, Maine, March 16, 1810, and died at Kenton, Ohio, August 26, 1878. His memory is still tenderly cherished by those who had the pleasure of knowing him intimately and appreciating his many good qualities.

The emigrant ancestor of this family was born in Devonshire, England, about 1625, and about 1650 came to America, settling at Kittery, Maine. His name was Captain William Leighton; he was a ship-master and a man of intelligence and education. Captain Leighton married Katherine, daughter of Nicholas Frost, of Kittery, who was born at Tiverton, England, in August, 1633. By this union there were five children.

The father of Usher P. Leighton, Samuel (called General Samuel) Leighton, was born in Kittery, Maine, May 25, 1771, and died at Alfred, Maine, in October, 1848. He was married, in December, 1799, to Frances Usher, daughter of William Parsons, of Alfred. Samuel Leighton was a man of considerable prominence and influence, and served as representative from his district to the general assembly at Boston, in 1809. He served as justice of the peace for thirty-five years and was appointed judge of the court of sessions of York county, in 1820. He was quite active in military affairs, having been appointed ensign, by General Hancock, August 20, 1792; colonel in 1800 and brigadier general in 1818. He was the father of ten children, of whom Usher P. was the seventh.

Usher P. Leighton came to McCutchenville, Ohio, in 1831, and there read medicine with Dr. Sampson. In 1833-34 he attended medical lectures at Bowdoin College, of Brunswick, Maine, and in 1835 received a diploma from Brown's University, of Providence, Rhode Island. In March, 1836, Dr. Leighton came to Kenton and commenced the practice of medicine, becoming very successful. He soon won his way into the hearts and confidence of the people of the community, and built up a fine practice. He was a nephew of Dr. Usher Parsons, of Providence, Rhode Island, for whom he was named. Dr. Parsons distinguished himself as a surgeon while with Commodore Perry, in the battle on Lake Erie, and his wife was a sister of Oliver Wendell Holmes.

Dr. Leighton was elected three times treasurer of Hardin county and discharged his duties with honor and credit. He was instrumental in founding the First Presbyterian church, in Kenton, Ohio, donating the lot upon which it was built and considerable lumber for its erection. He founded the Pioneer Association of Hardin county, July 4, 1871, and was its president while he lived. He was always ready to contribute to any worthy benevolent cause and had at heart the welfare of the community. He was an active member of the Odd Fellows.

January 19, 1840, Dr. Leighton married Ellen Houser, daughter of Jacob Houser. She was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, September 7, 1822. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania and moved to Kenton in 1832, entering many acres of land. He donated land for a public square and courthouse in Kenton. Mrs. Leighton died October 28, 1893.

Five children were born to Dr. Leighton and his wife, two of whom died in infancy. His son, George Leighton, was born in Kenton, April 16, 1842, and had four daughters: Anna P., Georgia P., Grace H. and Virginia P. Anna Leighton, the oldest daughter of Dr. Leighton, was born June 14, 1844, and married George Gregg, (now deceased) December 5, 1866. She resides in Pittsfield, New Hampshire and has one

HOSEA JOHNSON

daughter, Frances L. Martha Ellen, the youngest daughter of Dr. Usher P. Leighton, was born April 18, 1848, and died February 14, 1902. She was married, December 7, 1871, to B. F. Brunson, of Wisconsin, and they have had four sons, two of whom are living at Fort Smith, Arkansas, Jay L. and Alcott. George Leighton is a successful and prominent citizen of Kenton, Ohio, where he is engaged in real estate business.

Hosea Johnson.—In the death of Hosea Johnson, one of the old and honored pioneers of Hardin county passed to his final reward. His birth occurred, December 11, 1817, in Monroe township, Logan county, Ohio. Rheumatism, which afflicted him to some extent, incapacitated him for manual labor, but his mental faculties were undimmed, and he was young in his sympathies and progressive in his ideas, talking interestingly not only of by-gone times, when people lived the simple life, but on the current topics of the day.

Jacob Johnson, his father, was born in New Jersey, of Holland ancestry. When a boy he moved with his parents to Kentucky, settling as pioneers in Bourbon county. The country roundabout was then sparsely settled, the nearest trading post being twenty-five miles away, in Mason county, where to obtain even salt, a commodity of which every family used more or less, a journey on horseback must be made. In 1816, with his wife and seven children, he came to Ohio, making the removal with teams, and was among the original settlers of Logan county. Taking up a squatter's claim, he built two log cabins, connecting them by roof and floor. He cleared a small patch, and in addition to raising some corn made sugar. Deer, bears, wild turkeys and other game were abundant, supplying the family larder with what are now deemed luxuries. He also raised flax, and kept sheep, and his good wife used to card, spin and weave the material from which she fashioned the garments in which the entire family was clothed. After living in that clearing seventeen years, Jacob Johnson moved to the northeastern part of Logan county, about two miles from the present city of Rushsylvania, where he bought eighty-seven acres of heavily timbered land. He built a log cabin, and began the improvement of a farm, leaving the work, however, as he was then well along in years, to his sons, Peter and Hosea. He there resided until his death, in the ninetieth year of his age.

He married, in Kentucky, Rachel Greene, who died at the age of seventy-three years. Twelve children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Johnson, namely: Polly, Andrew, George, John, Peter, Henry, Jane, Hosea, Jacob W., Paris Fleming, Nelson M. and Philip G. While living in Kentucky, both he and his united with the Free Will Baptist church. There being none of his religious faith in Ohio when he came here with his family, he joined the Calvinistic Baptists, who were believers in predestination. Unwilling to subscribe to that doctrine, he withdrew his membership from that body, enlarged his cabin, invited a Methodist to preach there, and from that beginning a Methodist church was organized, and both he and his wife died in that faith.

Obtaining his knowledge of the three "r's" in the pioneer schools

of his day, Hosea Johnson began as soon as large enough to assist his father on the farm, living with his parents until taking upon himself the cares of a married man. Beginning life then even with the world, he rented land and began housekeeping in a log cabin near Miles City. A few months later he rented a tract of land on the Sandusky road, there raised two crops, after which he leased land for two years in Union county. Locating then in Lane township, Logan county, Mr. Johnson had charge of the farm of his uncle, George Greene, for seven years. Industrious and enterprising, he accumulated considerable money during his years of renting land, and this sum he invested in land, buying seventy-nine acres adjoining his uncle's estate, paying eleven dollars an acre. Five acres were cleared, but there were no other improvements. Failing to obtain good water, Mr. Johnson sold at a small advance, and then in October, 1850, came to Hardin county, and settled on his present farm. He bought first one hundred acres,paying twelve dollars an acre. Fifty acres of the oak timber had been cleared, and a hewed log house had been erected. He afterward cleared the remaining half of the original tract, and purchased other land at various times, his aggregate holdings amounting to five hundred and twenty acres. Mr. Johnson made improvements of an excellent character, placing his land under a good state of cultivation, and erected a good brick house and substantial farm buildings, everything about him indicating ample means and cultivated tastes.

Mr. Johnson married, January 2, 1840, Nancy Rosebrook, who was born in West Liberty, Logan county, Ohio, a daughter of Hilkiah and Susanna (Dearduff) Rosebrook, natives of Virginia, and Pioneers of Logan county, Ohio. She died January 11, 1900, at a ripe old age, eighty-three years. Ten children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, namely: Susanna, Elizabeth, John C., Sophronia, George, Micajah, Jane, Margaret, Peter and Mollie. Susanna married James Morrison and had eight children. After the death of Mr. Morrison she became the wife of L. T. Calvin, by whom she had two daughters. Elizabeth, wife of H. N. Smith, has eight children. John C. married Anna Rarey, and they have eight children. Sophronia, wife of Paschal Latimer, has five children. George married Julia Harmon, and they have two children. Micajah married Ollie Hyde, and they have one child. Jane, wife of Milton Davis, has two children. Margaret, wife of Milton Lee, has four children. Peter married Emma Vogel, and they have three children. Mollie married George Baumunk, who has charge of Mr. Johnson's homestead.

A Universalist in his religious beliefs, Mr. Johnson was broad in his views, believing in the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. He cast his first presidential vote for William Henry Harrison, and became a Republican when the party was formed, and continued a fearless advocate of its principles, supporting them by voice and vote. Hosea Johnson passed from this life on the 20th of January, 1910.

He was an optimist, having an unusual cheerful disposition; he saw only the good and succeeded in pointing out the blessings of God to others; so positive was he in seeing only God's grace and goodness that he became a Universalist in faith; he had an unusally bright mind

and a good memory so that he was able to quote with the mind of a scholar, poetry and the classics; he was a great singer and loved the hymns of the church; his love for children was very marked and as a result the children all loved him.

He was a kindly man, a man of men. He lived for the good he could get out of life, the contentment of home and loved ones. He was at the time of his death the dean of the Ansleys and Johnsons and was for years the principal character at their annual reunions..

Hosea was the last of this good family to pass to the better world on Thursday afternoon, January 20th, 1910, closing his weary eyes to sweet, sweet rest at the age of 92 years, 1 month and 9 days.

Uncle Hosea Johnson and Nancy Rosebrook were joined in the holy bonds of matrimony and lived a happy and prosperous life of sixty years together, celebrating the event with their children January 1, 1900. On the day following, the good wife and mother was striken with paralysis and after nine days passed away to her home in heaven.

The surviving children of this grand old couple are —Mrs. Susanna Calvin, Mrs. H. N. Smith, Mrs. Jennie Davis, Mrs. Margaret Lee, and Mrs. Mollie Baumunk, and four sons John C. and George of Hardin county, and Mac and Peter of Glendora, California. Also forty-five grandchildren and fifty great-grandchildren survive.

Uncle Hosea in early life was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, but later happily embraced the Universalist faith and greatly rejoiced in the faith, and the profession of belief that the Holy scriptures of the Old and New Testaments contain a revelation of the character of God and the duty, interest and final destination of mankind; that there is one God whose nature is love, revealed in one Lord Jesus Christ by one holy spirit of grace who will finally restore the whole family of mankind to holiness and happiness. All who ever met Uncle Hosea will ever remember his good advice and prayers for their welfare.

George Baumunk was born in February, 1863, in Wyandot county, Ohio, a son of John and Barbara (Greecur) Baumunk. Having obtained a practical education in the public schools of his native county, he came to Hardin county in 1882, before attaining his majority, and has since been actively and prosperously engaged in agricultural pursuits, now having the entire management of the farming property of his late father-in-law, Mr. Johnson. Mr. Baumunk's marriage with Mollie Johnson was solemnized May 5, 1904. A lively and interesting member of their household is a grand niece of Mrs. Baumunk, Margaret Price, called by her great-grandfather, of whom she was a great pet, "Birdie."

John Brungard.—Widely known as one of the leading grain men of Hardin county, John Brungard, in company with his brother is carrying on a thriving business, being owner of mills and elevators, and one of the largest grain dealers and shippers of this part of the state. He was born, October 9, 1880, in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, a son of John and Elizabeth (Young) Brungard. A more extended parental and ancestral history may be found elsewhere in this work, in connection with the sketch of Otis Daniel Brungard, Mr. Brungard's brother.

Obtaining a practical education in the public schools, John Brungard began life as a wage earner at the age of fifteen years, being employed on a railroad for a time. Coming with the family to Ridgeway, he assisted his father in the establishment of the milling business with which he has since been actively associated. After the death of his father, he, in company with his brothers, incorporated the milling interests before inaugurated, and for two years thereafter had charge of the Horton elevator. He now resides in Ridgeway, and, with his brother, is kept busily employed in the management of their various milling and elevator interests, their business having assumed large proportions, being one of the most extensive of its kind in the county. Religiously Mr. Brungard is a consistent member of the Reformed church and fraternally he belongs to Lodge No. 588, A. F. & A. M., at West Mansfield.

Mr. Brungard married, October 22, 1907, Clara May Holmgren, who was born, October 14, 1884, in St. Paul, Minnesota, a daughter of S. H. Holmgren.

J. D. Kennedy, a prominent dairy farmer of Hale township, Hardin county, was born on the farm he now occupies. He is a son of Moses Kennedy, who was born in 1822, in Adams county, Pennsylvania, and a grandson of John Kennedy. The great-great-grandfather of Moses Kennedy came from Ireland to America, and married a wife of German descent. They had both come to Pennsylvania with their respective parents and were there married.

John Kennedy removed from Pennsylvania to Wyandot county, Ohio, where he became employed as a wood chopper near Marseilles and here he spent the remainder of his life. Moses Kennedy remained with his parents until his marriage. In 1843 he settled in Hale township, Hardin county, buying his farm of one hundred and twenty-six acres at six dollars per acre and here he followed farming for the remainder of his life. He was a millwright by trade and erected the first grist mill in the township. He was also a carpenter, and there are still standing many buildings erected by him. He died in 1897. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He was an influential citizen and in politics a Republican, being one of the oldest commissioners of Hardin county. He married Nancy F. Kendrick, a daughter of James and Hanna Kendrick. She was born in Delaware in 1818, and died in 1892. Moses Kennedy and his wife had children as follows: Emi H., of California; Kendrick, a farmer of Wolf Creek; J. D.; Joseph, a farmer of California; Sarah, wife of James M. Baldwin, of Kenton; Rille, wife of H. F. Keech, of Toledo; Renah, wife of F. P. Allen, of Forest; Maggie, wife of D. H. Gantt, living with her brother, J. D. Kennedy; and three who are deceased, namely: Hersteram, Frances and Hannah.

J. D. Kennedy received a common school education and helped with the work of the farm until his father's death. He then purchased the shares of the other heirs, and carries on general farming, dealing considerably in stock. He is an enterprising, prudent farmer, and good

business man, and having paid close attention to his interests has been financially successful. Mr. Kennedy is unmarried and is doing the work of the farm with hired helpers. He was the first man in Hale township to sow commercial fertilizer. He is a stockholder in the Mt. Victory Telephone Company.

Mr. Kennedy is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and fraternally he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Mt. Victory, in which he has passed through the chairs and served a number of years as trustee and two terms as deputy district grand master of Hardin county. Politically he is a Republican, but has never cared for public office, though at present he is serving as precinct committeeman of Hale township.

J. E. Mertz, who is the owner of a farm in Roundhead township, Hardin county, was born in Sidney, Ohio, December 27, 1854, and is a son of Oliver and Catherine (Shafer) Mertz. Oliver was a son of John Mertz, who was the second sheriff of Anglaize county, Ohio. Oliver Mertz and his wife removed to Illinois in 1864, and J. E. Mertz then lived there with his parents until of age.

The early days of J. E. Mertz were spent on a farm and he learned the details of farming. After attending the schools of his neighborhood and applying himself well to the task of acquiring an education, Mr. Mertz began teaching, and continued in this profession from 1875-82, when he went into partnership with John W. May, under the name of May & Mertz. They continued in mercantile business in Roundhead for a period of twenty-two years, and the firm was dissolved March 17, 1904. Mr. Mertz now devotes his time and attention to his farming interests, and is very successful. He owns one hundred and fifty acres and is an energetic, progressive farmer. He is a public-spirited citizen, and in political views is a Democrat. He has served in various local offices, clerk, treasurer, etc., and has fulfilled his duties in a satisfactory manner. In his business dealings Mr. Mertz has always been honest and upright, and his probity is unquestioned. He is well known and popular in his community, where he has been a resident thirty-three years.

In 1880 Mr. Mertz married Alice Bowdel, the daughter of Henry S. Bowdel, and to them four children have been born, namely: Henry O., born April 5, 1884, graduated from Roundhead high school, spent two years at Ohio Northern University, and graduated from the Indiana University School of Medicine; Gladys E., graduated from Shortridge high school in Indianapolis; Catherine, born July 7, 1894, a student in high school; and Edwin, born in 1897. Mr. Mertz and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a member of the Masonic order being affiliated with Belle Center Lodge, Ada Chapter and Kenton Commandery. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias, in which he is a past chancellor, and of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Captain Walter Elliott.—Enterprising and progressive, inheriting the vigorous qualities of heart and mind that marked his Scotch

ancestors, Captain Walter Elliott is thoroughly identified with the best interests of Hardin county, and as postmaster at Ada is widely known. He was born, December 16, 1867, in Scioto county, Ohio, a son of Benjamin Elliott, and grandson of Clinton Elliott, a pioneer settler of Clinton county, this state.

A native of Clinton county, Ohio, Benjamin Elliott succeeded to the occupation in which he was reared, and was engaged in general farming until his death, in 1872, while yet in manhood's prime. His wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Storer, is still a resident of Ohio, her native state. Of the six children born of their marriage, three survive. There were five sons and one daughter, Walter, the subject of this brief sketch, being the fifth child and the youngest son.

But five years old when his father died, Walter Elliott obtained the rudiments of his education in the rural schools of his native district, and as soon as old enough to be of any use began to earn his living, working in the woods, the saw mills, or on a farm. Desirous of advancing his education he came as a young man to Ada and by teaching paid his way through the Ohio Northern University, from which he was graduated with the class of 1897. The following year he embarked in mercantile pursuits, and in 1900 he was appointed postmaster of Ada by President McKinley, and served so faithfully that he was reappointed to the office by President Roosevelt in 1904, and again reappointed in January, 1909, by President Roosevelt, a record of service, this being his third term, that bespeaks his ability, integrity, and efficiency. A stanch Republican in politics, Mr. Elliott takes an intelligent interest in everything pertaining to the public welfare, and is now serving as president of the Ada Water and Light Company. On June 22, 1904, he was honored by receiving, from Governor Myron T. Herrick, his commission as captain of Company G, Second Ohio National Guards, a position which he filled with dignity and credit.

Captain Elliott married, June 15, 1909, Cecile Longworth, daughter of Rev. J. M. and Anna (Morgans) Longworth, of Ada. Mrs. Elliott died on March 9, 1910. Fraternally the Captain is a member of the Masonic order, belonging to the blue lodge and to the chapter, and also to the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

Malichi Taylor.—In the death of Malichi Taylor, a young man whose brief life was rich in promise and in achievement, Hardin county lost a citizen of sterling worth and integrity, and Taylor Creek township was deprived of one of its most intelligent and progressive agriculturists. A loving and dutiful son, an affectionate brother, a kind neighbor, and a most genial and popular companion, his death was a cause of general regret, and the immediate family, especially, were tendered the sympathy of the entire community. He was born April 7, 1879, in Taylor Creek township, and there died, March 30, 1910, on the homestead where his entire life had been passed. He was of Irish ancestry, his father, Patrick Taylor, and his grandfather, Joseph Taylor, having been natives of the Emerald Isle.

Emigrating from Ireland with his family in 1860, Joseph Taylor located first near Belle Center, Logan county, Ohio, where he was en-

gaged in farming a few years. Coming from there to Hardin county, he bought land in Taylor Creek township, and on the homestead which he improved was employed in tilling the soil until his death, May 2, 1872. He married Mary Farrel, who was born in Ireland, and died on the home farm, in Taylor Creek township, July 2, 1877. Four children blessed their union, namely: Patrick, Joseph, Katherine and Sarah.

Born February 23, 1848, in Ireland, Patrick Taylor was but twelve years old when he came with the family to Ohio. He received a practical education in the district schools, and under his father's instructions was well drilled in the various branches of agriculture. After the death of his parents he bought out the interests of the remaining heirs in the home farm, which he managed successfully until his death, November 30, 1895. On January 7, 1877, he married Mary Haley, who was born in Sandusky, Ohio, August 25, 1857, a daughter of Malichi and Johanna (O'Connell) Haley. Ten children were born to them, namely: Malichi, the subject of this brief biographical sketch; Joseph Henry, of Tacoma, Washington; John Patrick, living on the adjoining farm; Charles William, residing in Canada; Thomas Franklin, died September 5, 1896; James Robert, died in infancy; Daniel A., attending school in Lima, Ohio; Dennis Bertran; Robert Leo; and Mary Agnes. The mother still occupies the old homestead, the younger children being with her.

Having acquired a practical education, Malichi Taylor, at the age of sixteen years, left school, and began assisting his father in the farm labors. After the death of his father, he remained with his mother, brothers and sister on the homestead, and was thereafter successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits carrying on general farming the remainder of his years. He was specially interested in stock breeding and raising, keeping registered Hereford cattle, Poland China hogs, and other registered stock. He was manager, and one of the heirs, of the parental homestead, and with his brother John, had title to seventy-five acres of adjoining land. Inheriting the political and religious beliefs of his father, Mr. Taylor was an active supporter of the principles of the Democratic party, and a trustworthy member of the Roman Catholic church at Kenton. He was active in local affairs, and at the time of his death was serving as township assessor.

Patrick E. Travers was born in the beautiful "Isle of the Shamrock," a country noted for its beautiful scenery and its hospitable and loyal people, his birth occurring in the county Leitrim in 1840. At the age of twenty-two he emigrated to the United States, and locating first in Wheeling, West Virginia, he learned the blacksmith's trade and followed it for a number of years. Moving to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1866, he remained here working at his trade for two years, and in 1872 came from there to Hardin county and purchased in 1883 his present home farm of one hundred and thirty-five acres, afterward clearing this land and erecting thereon a beautiful and substantial home and commodious and valuable farm buildings.

Mr. Travers is a son of Peter and Mary (Kelly) Travers, both of whom were born in county Leitrim, Ireland, and they lived and died on their native soil. Of the eight children which were born of their marriage union four came to the United States, namely: Delilah, Mrs. Hoban; Mary, Mrs. Gorman; and John and Patrick E. Patrick E. Travers married in 1868 Miss Anna Osborn, and they have become the parents of ten children as follows: Lutecia, Gertrude, Martin, Anna (deceased), Emmett, Kate, Ambrose (deceased), William (deceased), Christine and Neveda. Mrs. Travers was born in Ireland, and came to this country previous to her husband. The family are members of the Roman Catholic church, and Mr. Travers has membership relations with the Patrons of Husbandry. The following children are married: Lutecia is the wife of George Hinsel; Gertrude married William J. Hinsel; Martin married Lizzie Ruppright; Christine is the wife of Louis Baker; and Kate is married to John Wolgamot.

Miles Wilkinson Van Fleet, many years since deceased, is still remembered by many of his old friends and neighbors. The last days of his life were spent on his farm in Dudley township, Hardin county, Ohio, where he was prominently identified with the best interests of the community. Mr. Van Fleet was born near Canandaigua, New York,

JOSHUA VAN FLEET

April 30, 1805, son of Joshua Van Fleet, a Revolutionary soldier, who also served in the war of 1812, and was one of the pioneers of Marion county.

The founder of the Van Fleet in America, Joshua Van Fleet, was born at Amsterdam, Holland, August 13, 1764, and in the year 1776 he emigrated to America with his brother John, serving during the last three years of the war, having enlisted at the age of fourteen years. He served three months, also, in the war of 1812, and acquitted himself creditably. In 1785 Joshua Van Fleet married a Miss Roberts, whose

father was also a Revolutionary soldier, and of this union the following children were born: nine sons and five daughters, who settled as pioneers in different parts of the country. Mrs. Van Fleet died November 21, 1813, and Mr. Van Fleet married (second) January 26, 1819, Miss Elizabeth Odell, by whom he had no children.

Joshua Van Fleet served as a member of the Legislature of the state of New York, and as county judge, and was a member of the committee that drafted and reported a bill which became a law, abolishing slavery in the state of New York. He served twenty years in the legislature and twenty-two years on the bench. In religious belief he was a Universalist and in political views a Democrat. In 1836 Mr. Van Fleet left Canandaigua and removed to Big Island, Marion county, Ohio, in order to spend his last days near his son Miles, all his children having moved west prior to this time. He died January 8, 1848, and his remains rest in the cemetery north of Big Island.

In 1832 Miles Wilkinson Van Fleet located in Dudley township, Hardin county, Ohio, and at that time there were but two hundred and ten inhabitants in the county, the major portion of these being located near Roundhead and what was then known as Johnstown, now Ada. There was then but one road in the county, which has always been known as the Sandusky road, going from Sandusky on the lake, to Springfield and Dayton, and crossing Hardin county from northeast to southwest. Over this road at that time passed all freight and passenger traffic. Mr. Van Fleet and his family suffered the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life, and the time he spent in Hardin county included the period when it passed from a wilderness to a scene of productive farms and comfortable homes. He was one of those who worked so hard to make this change and development possible, and was one of the first citizens in the county to urge the present system of building pikes or macadamized roads, and he suggested to Benjamin Brunson, then a member of the county board of commissioners, the plan that was adopted by them, which resulted in giving Hardin county so many miles of most excellent roads.

When a young man, Mr. Van Fleet was a warm friend of Stephen A. Douglas, and it was by the request of Mr. Douglas that when the former came to Ohio in 1832, he interceded in behalf of Mr. Douglas before the school board of what was then the village of Cleveland, succeeding in inducing them to employ him as superintendent of schools for a period of two years. Upon the end of the two years Mr. Douglas left Cleveland to go farther west and came to visit his friend in his cabin in Dudley township, remaining two weeks, then left for Cincinnati, whence he went to Jacksonville, Illinois, and thence to Chicago. The last-named city, Mr. Douglas prophesied would become the largest city in the west, if not in the whole country. He often wrote Mr. Van Fleet, urging him to sell his farm in Dudley township and move to Chicago, and there friendly relations were unshaken up to the time of Mr. Douglas' death. In all his turbulent and busy career he found time to write occasional letters to his old friend in Hardin county, whom he never forgot.

In 1831 Mr. Van Fleet married Caroline Knapp, of Canandaigua, and to this union two children were born: Lucy and Henry T. Henry T. Van Fleet followed the profession of law until his death, at Marion, Ohio, in 1892, and Mrs. Lucy Bartram Van Fleet is still living, at Los Angeles, California. Mrs. Caroline Van Fleet died in 1837, and in 1842 Mr. Van Fleet married Miss Nancy White, by whom he had five children, all of whom are deceased. Mrs. Nancy Van Fleet died April 1, 1849, and September 10, 1851, Mr. Van Fleet married Miss Elizabeth Lester, by whom he had nine children, all of whom are deceased except Mrs. C. E. Ridenour, of Denver, Colorado, and John M., ex-mayor of Kenton. Mrs. Elizabeth Van Fleet died December 8, 1908.

In religious belief Mr. Van Fleet always clung to the doctrine of Universalism, and in politics was an unswerving Democrat. However, although he was three different times tendered the nomination for state senator, and the same number of times the nomination for office of county representative, he always refused, and his standing advice to his sons was "to keep out of politics, except to use their influence to elect good men to represent the people, who would look to the interests of the people, regardless of party interests." Mr. Van Fleet was highly esteemed for his many fine qualities of mind and heart, and was considered a man of superior intelligence and gifts, who ever had at heart the best interests of the community in which he lived. This excellent man died April 11, 1892, at the age of eighty-seven years, and his remains rest in what is known as the Lee cemetery, in Dudley township, Hardin county.

William Wolf, a representative German-American farmer of Goshen township, Hardin county, has been a resident of that section of Ohio since 1866, and his long identity with its substantial interests, as well as his standing in the community, fully entitle him to mention in this work. Mr. Wolf was born in Germany in 1842, and is a son of John and Rosella Wolf, both natives of the fatherland. His mother spent her entire life in Germany, while the father, when well advanced in years, came to the United States and passed away in Goshen township at the age of ninety-two years. They were the parents of five children. The daughter is deceased and two of the sons, Joseph and Frederick, are still residents of Germany. William was reared and educated in his native land, where he learned the trade of a carpenter. Emigrating to the United States in 1861, after a short time spent in New York city he went to Buffalo and thence to Upper Sandusky. In the city last named he entered the employ of the government as a mechanic, during the following three years being identified with the construction of hospitals and other United States buildings. At the end of that period he became associated with private contractors at various localities, and in 1866 located at Kenton, Hardin county, where he worked steadily and efficiently at his trade for sixteen years. In 1872 he purchased his present farm of eighty acres in Goshen township, which has remained his homestead ever since.

In 1868, two years after coming to Hardin county, Mr. Wolf

married Miss Caroline, a daughter of George Pfeiffer, and the fruits of this union were four children, namely: Rudolph, born July 17, 1872, who married Miss Mabel McQuown; Margaret, who was born April 25, 1875, and is the wife of Perry Briley; Samuel, born in 1878, who married Miss Jessie Armstrong; and Mary, born November 8, 1879, who is now Mrs. Louis Lehnhardt. His first wife having died, Mr. Wolf married Miss Ella Rader, daughter of John Rader, their marriage occurring on July 5, 1883. Mrs. Wolf's parents died when she was eight years of age. The children of this union are six in number, as follows: Minnie, born October 22, 1886, who is now Mrs. Joe Bookmyer; Carl, who was born March 26, 1888; Edward, August 3, 1890; Louis, December 28, 1893; Laura, August 8, 1895; and Catherine, August 2, 1896.

George B. Wells.—Prominent among the agriculturists of Hardin county is numbered George B. Wells, a prominent and well known resident of Liberty township. He was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, May 12, 1864, and in the same year his parents, Elden and Susan B. (Gossert) Wells, both from Pennsylvania, moved to Ohio. Their first home here was in Seneca county, but later moving from there to Wood county, Elden Wells bought one hundred and twenty acres of valuable land there, but eventually sold that farm. In 1864 he entered the army of the north and served as a faithful soldier in the Civil war until honorably discharged. Four children were born to Elden and Susan Wells, namely: Winfield S., Ida M. and George B., twins, and Victoria E., but the last named is deceased. Mrs. Susan B. Wells, is also deceased, dying in 1906.

George B. Wells is now one of the most prominent of the farmers of Liberty township, where he owns and occupies a splendidly improved estate. He purchased this farm in 1902. He married Miss Carrie M., a daughter of John and Susan Alexander, from Wood county, Ohio. They were married on the 1st of November, 1894, and they have two children, John E. and Nina M. Mrs. Wells was born in Wood county, Ohio, February 11, 1876, and was the younger of two children, her brother, James D., now residing in Canton, Ohio. John Alexander died in the year 1904, and his wife Susan passed away on the 24th of October, 1908. Mr. Wells is one of the representative citizens of Liberty township.

William B. Price, of the law firm of Price Brothers, of Forest and Kenton, was born in Forest. He is a son of Russell and Addie (Backus) Price, who were married June 22, 1876; Russell Price was brought to Madison county by his parents when one year of age, and his wife is a daughter of Colonel W. H. Backus, a valiant soldier of the Civil war. Russell Price's parents drove to Kenton in 1847, with a wagon, crossing Scioto river on a raft. He was reared and educated in Kenton and Patterson, Hardin county, and his father died in 1855, aged fifty-five years of age. Russell Price is a son of Henry and Eloisa (Corry) Price; Henry Price brought his family to Hardin county in 1847, and owned two hundred acres of land in Pleasant township, besides his

property in Kenton. He was a lover of fine horses and dealt extensively in stock. He ran a stage between Kenton and Lima, and did his own driving, this being before the day of the railroad. His children were: Shelby, who died in 1848; John C., formerly sheriff of Union county, Ohio, and died in 1893; Henrietta, died in 1848; Mrs. J. S. Snow; Robert E. and Russell.

Upon reaching manhood Russell Price returned to Kenton, where he remained five years and then located in Forest, which is still his home. In 1868 he began the study of law, and was admitted to the Ohio bar August 25, 1871. He was admitted to the United States bar February 5, 1878. While living in Kenton he held the office of township clerk, while at Patterson was postmaster, and also served as postmaster of Forest from March, 1885, until July 31, 1889. Mr. Price also served one term as mayor of Forest. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and the Knights of Pythias. To him and his wife were born three sons, namely: Harry B., superintendent of gold mines in Central America; Charles R. and William B. Mrs. Addie B. Price died October 30, 1909.

The firm of Price Brothers is composed of William B. and Charles R., both born in Forest, where they received their early education; later they entered Ohio Northern University, where both graduated in the literary course, William B. in 1901 and Charles R. in 1903. They were graduated from the law department of the same institution, William B. in 1904 and Charles R. one year later. The latter taught three years in the high school of Forest; after his brother graduated in law he entered the law school of the Ohio Northern University from which he was graduated, as above stated. The firm has a large practice, not confined to the state, as they also practice in the United States courts. Both are able members of their profession, in which they stand high. They have been very successful and have won fine reputations. Both are members of the Masonic order and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Charles R. Price married Louise D. Rese, April 8, 1909.

William B. Price married June 16, 1903, Gwendoline Cessna, and to this union have been born three children, namely: Russell, Bradley and Eloise.

Mrs. Joseph M. Dille both by birth and marriage is connected with the pioneer families of Hardin county. She was born in Logan county, Ohio, on the 31st of July, 1833, and her father, James Smith, a farmer there for some years, came to Hardin county in 1843, establishing the family home near Mt. Victory. On the land which he purchased there was a large hill which he sold for one thousand dollars to the railroad company when it ran its line through his place, and when this hill was dug up and the dirt hauled away many Indians' bones were found there. Mr. Dille was born in Virginia, but he was only a boy when he came with his parents to Ohio, and after a life devoted to agricultural pursuits and saw milling he died in the year 1877, when seventy-seven years of age. He had married Mary Taylor, and of their children there

are three daughters and two sons living: Mary, wife of Rev. T. N. Barkdale, of Toledo; Francis, widow of John Baldwin; Mrs. Joseph M. Dille, the subject of this review; John a real estate dealer and resident of northern Kansas; and Charles a farmer in Hardin county. Three of the sons of this family were Civil war soldiers, one having laid down his life on the altar of his country and another was wounded in its service.

Miss Smith in 1850 gave her hand in marriage to Joseph M. Dille, and their married life covered a period of nearly thirty years, the husband dying in 1879, when fifty-two years of age. He was born in Richland county, Ohio, a son of Abraham Dille, who moved there when a young man from Pennsylvania, and later came to Hardin county, where he died in 1884, at the age of eighty years, and his wife, nee Deborah Post, died at the age of sixty-five years. He was a participant in the celebrated Squirrel Hunters raid during the Civil war. Joseph M. Dille was but a lad when he came with his parents to Hardin county in 1832, and his time after leaving the schoolroom was devoted to farming and to the carpenter's trade. During the war between the North and the South he enlisted for ninety days, and at the close of his term of service he returned to his home and to his former occupations. The following children blessed the marriage union of Mr. and Mrs. Dille: Lafayette, a farmer in Larue, Ohio, married Anna Harmon, and they have three children; Clara is the wife of Frank Cessna, a farmer in Dudley township, and they have one child; Oak, a farmer in Hale township married Florence Butler, and they also have one child; Effie is the wife of William Eddy, of Kent, and they have six children; Fremont is deceased; Henry, a clerk in Lima, Ohio, married May Hoover and has two children; James is at home with his mother; Edith is the wife of Samuel Deardorff, of Bellefontaine, and the mother of four children; and Frank. Mrs. Dille also has two great-grandchildren: Alice, a daughter of Jennie Dille Penny, and Pauline, a daughter of Roy Eddy and a granddaughter of Effie (Dille) Eddy.

Frank Dille is with his mother on the home farm. He married Vesta Morrison, born in Union county, Ohio, in 1879, a daughter of John Morrison, who is now living retired at Mt. Victory, sixty-three years of age. Mrs. Morrison, nee Drusilla Ely, died in 1907, when sixty-two years of age. The four children of Mr. and Mrs. Dille are Clair, Dwight, Leonora and Wilburt.

James Dille owns a half interest in the Dille farm, and he devotes his time and attention to its cultivation and improvement. This homestead is one of the largest and most valuable estates in this section of Hardin county. James Dille is a musician of note, and much of his time since his boyhood's days has been spent in travel, his wanderings taking him over many parts of the continent.

Michael S. Moon.—One of the best known of McDonald township's business men is Michael S. Moon, who owns a splendid estate here and who has been identified with its agricultural life for many years. He was born in Hardin county, Ohio, December 23, 1859, a son of William

and Maria (Smith) Moon and a grandson on the paternal side of John and Rebecca Moon. The grandparents were both born and reared in Virginia, coming from there to Highland county, Ohio, and in September of 1833 they came to Hardin county. They established their home in the township of McDonald and spent the remainder of their lives here. John Moon died in the year 1869, owning considerable land at the time of his death and he was considered a very prosperous man. John and Rebecca Moon became the parents of four children: Silas K. who gave his life to his country's cause and died in Andersonville prison; William, who was born in Highland county, Ohio, July 13, 1828, served with the One Hundred and Eighty-third Ohio Regiment to the close of the war; Lydia, who died in Battle Creek, Nebraska, the wife of E. G. Dennis; and Rebecca, the wife of John Jefferies, of Michigan. William Moon married Maria A. Smith, whose parents were from Virginia, and in the same year in which the Moon family moved from that state to Highland county, Ohio, the Smith family came to Ross county, this state, and the year that the Moon family located in Hardin county the Smiths established their home in Logan county, but the two families during all this time were unknown to each other. There was but one day's difference in the ages of William Moon and Maria Smith, and another strange coincidence in their lives is that at the time they were married they each weighed one hundred and seventy-six pounds. They were married in the year of 1856, and their four children are: Sarah E., the deceased wife of Lloyd Hoon; Michael S., of this review; Eliza V., who became the wife of Isaac Philips and is also deceased; and John W., whose home is in Elkhart, Indiana.

Michael S. Moon was reared on his parents farm and received a district school education, and since old enough he has been identified with agricultural pursuits. He now owns nearly four hundred acres of land in McDonald township, all in one body, and he is extensively engaged in both farming and stock raising. He also has a deer park on his farm. Mr. Moon married on the 7th of June, 1885, Ida B. Hoon, who was born in McDonald township October 28, 1862, and she was reared on a farm adjoining that of her husband's early home. They have four living children: Grethel F., a graduate of the Belle Center high school and of a business school at Lima, Ohio, and now the wife of Harry Noble, of Logan county; Lendel B., at home; Zelma, a graduate of the Belle Center high school with the class of 1910; and Helen M., a student in the Belle Center high school. A daughter, Gladys, died in April of 1903. Mr. Moon is in politics a Republican.

Marshall Stewart, a successful farmer of Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, Ohio, pays special attention to stock raising and owns a large amount of land. Mr. Stewart was born near Spring Hill, Logan county, Ohio, November 12, 1850, a son of Samuel and Mary Ann (Marshall) Stewart. Samuel Stewart was a son of John T. and Ann (Elder) Stewart, and was born in Clark county, Ohio, March 26, 1823. When about twenty-six years of age he moved to Green county and engaged in mercantile business, and in 1860 he located in Hardin county,

where he purchased five hundred acres of land that was partially cleared. He engaged extensively in stock raising, making a specialty of sheep. For some twenty years he handled more sheep than any other man in the county, and wintered from fifteen hundred to two thousand head of them. He was a man of superior business judgment and very successful. He was for many years president of the Farmers Bank of Rushsylvania. Mr. Stewart was a member of the Presbyterian church and served many years as its elder. Politically he was a Republican, and he served in several township offices. In October, 1870, he was elected county commissioner for one term, and during his incumbency of this office the gravel pikes of the county were built. For thirty years Mr. Stewart kept a careful diary of his work and of events, which recorded many interesting things. In the fall of 1876 he moved to Kenton, but two years later returned to his farm, where he spent the remainder of his life. He died March 19, 1888, and his widow died in July, 1890. Mrs. Stewart was also a native of Clark county, Ohio, born June 19, 1825, daughter of William Marshall. Mr. Stewart and his wife were married December 12, 1841, and besides Marshall their children were as follows: Chase, an attorney at Springfield, Ohio; Ella, wife of I. W. Lewis, of Rushsylvania, a merchant; Mary A., who married C. B. Corry, and they live in Cleveland, where he is general agent for an insurance company; Elizabeth, wife of Dr. J. J. Boom, of Mt. Victory; and Catherine, wife of R. W. Warmington, a banker of Montreal, Canada.

John T. Stewart's grandfather came to the United States from Belfast, Ireland, in 1735, bringing his wife with him. John T. Stewart was born in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, March 3, 1781, and his father died September 19, 1803. In 1805 John T. Stewart moved with his brother to Ohio, where he purchased five hundred acres of land, located in Clark county. On March 2, 1815, he married Ann, daughter of Robert and Ann Elder; she was born in Pennsylvania May 19, 1798. Mr. Stewart died April 16, 1850, in Clark county, and his widow died September 24, 1880.

After receiving his education in the public school, Marshall Stewart began helping his father with the work of the farm. At Samuel Stewart's death one thousand acres of land were divided among his children and Marshall received the homestead as his share. Like his father, he has devoted much attention to sheep and has often kept four hundred head through the winter. He also has some fifty head of cattle, fifteen horses and about one hundred hogs, which he ships to market. Mr. Stewart is an enterprising and ambitious man, and in his business affairs has always shown good judgment and ability. He is a man of sterling honesty and integrity, and his high character is recognized and appreciated.

In February, 1886, Mr. Stewart married Olive Stevenson, who was born in Buck township, Hardin county, May 24, 1861, and is a daughter of Samuel and Eliza Jane Stevenson. Samuel Stevenson died in the Civil war; one of his fingers was shot off and blood poisoning resulted. Mr. Stewart and his wife have children as follows: Samuel, born December 3, 1886; Thornton, born in April, 1889; Ella, born May 3,

1892; Harold, April 4, 1894; and Dorothy, born March 31, 1900. Samuel is now attending the Ohio State University at Columbus. Mr. Stewart is one of the directors of the Ridgeway (Ohio) Bank. He is a charter member of the County Agricultural Society and one of its directors. He is a member of the Elks of Kenton and politically is a Republican. He is actively interested in public affairs and has served as township treasurer and trustee.

EARL E. RUTLEDGE.—Among the influential and successful business men of Kenton, Ohio, is Earl E. Rutledge who deals in real estate and insurance. He is a native of Hardin county, having been born in Ada, August 13, 1874, and is a son of George W. and Susanna (Shuler) Rutledge, both natives of Ohio, the former born in Roundhead township, Hardin county, August 16, 1851, and the latter near Lima, Allen county, June 30, 1856. George W. Rutledge was reared in his native county. He entered the Northwestern Ohio Normal School at Ada, and afterward became connected with this institution as a teacher. He was a merchant in Ada for a time and in 1880 became connected with the *Hardin County Republican*, being at one time sole owner, but later sold a half interest in the paper to E. L. Millar; when he was elected to the office of county auditor, in 1884, he disposed of the paper altogether. He was seven years in office, being elected twice. He became prominent in public affairs in Kenton, and served some time as a member of the school board. He was interested in the Kenton Hardware Manufacturing Company and the Kenton Gas & Electric Company. In 1888 he organized the Home Savings Building and Loan Company of which he became secretary. He was a Scottish Rite Mason and was also affiliated with the Knights of Pythias. He was a stanch Republican and active in the interests of the party. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He was at the head of the Bureau of Inspection and Supervision of Public Offices of the State of Ohio, at the time of his death, which occurred January 18, 1906. He was a life-long resident of Hardin county, and took great pride and interest in its progress and welfare.

George W. Rutledge was a son of Lewis and Jane (Tidd) Rutledge. The former was a native of Champaign county, Ohio, and the latter was the first white female child born in what is now Hardin county, November 15, 1823, her parents being among the earliest pioneers. She died March 17, 1873. Lewis Rutledge, who was born September 2, 1818, was one of the pioneers of Hardin county, and identified with the early history of the locality. He died in June, 1875. He was a son of Richard Rutledge, born July 28, 1798, died January 12, 1875, a native of Hagerstown, Maryland, whose father, Thomas Rutledge, born August 3, 1772, came to Hardin county in 1832, one of the original settlers, when the county was included as a part of Logan county. Thomas Rutledge died August 30, 1846. Thomas, Richard, and Lewis Rutledge are all buried in Roundhead township. Susanna (Shuler) Rutledge was a daughter of Valentine and Lucy (Strickler) Shuler, of Allen county, Ohio. Her father died when she was but four days old. Her mother was several years later married to William Garretson, of Allen county, to which union was born one daughter, Della, now Mrs. W. H. Cooper, of Toronto, Canada. Mrs. Rutledge was an active worker in the Methodist Episcopal church with which she became identified when a child. She was a noble woman and will long be remembered. She died on June 16,

LEWIS RUTLEDGE

JANE TIDD RUTLEDGE

Earl E. Rutledge

Geo. H. Rutledge

Sadie Rutledge

1903. George W. Rutledge and his wife had four children, those besides Earl E. being: Carl C., intercollegiate secretary of the Y. M. C. A., of Philadelphia; Donna D. and Warren W., the two latter being in Los Angeles, California. George W. Rutledge was again married, to Mrs. Sallie (McBride) Davis, October 26, 1905, less than three months prior to his death. She survives him and lives with her son Ray Davis, in Columbus, Ohio.

Earl E. Rutledge is the oldest child, and the only one now living in Hardin county. He was six years old at the time his parents located in Kenton, and there received his education in the public schools. He graduated from high school in 1893, and attended Eastman Business College of Poughkeepsie, New York, graduating from same in June, 1894. He became associated with his father in the insurance business in August of that same year, and continued in this business until November 1, 1906, when he sold a half interest to E. A. Loop, of Crawfordsville, Indiana. February 1, 1909, Mr. Rutledge bought him out and sold a half interest to E. C. Sells, the firm now being Rutledge & Sells, doing a flourishing business in general insurance and real estate. Both members of the firm are wide-awake, enterprising business men, with keen insight and good principles, and the affairs of the concern are in promising condition. Mr. Rutledge was inspector of public accounts under the Bureau of Inspection and Supervision of Public Offices, holding this office from December, 1906, until February, 1909.

April 27, 1899, Earl E. Rutledge married Eda M. Stahl a daughter of G. A. and Elizabeth (Fink) Stahl. G. A. Stahl, who was born September 12, 1843, is a native of Esslingen, Wertemburg, Germany. Elizabeth (Fink) Stahl who was born June 30, 1842, is a native of Hardin county. Her father was Benedict Fink, a native of Berne, Switzerland, and one of the early pioneers of Hardin county. Eda M. Stahl was born May 26, 1873, in Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Rutledge and his wife have one child living, a son, Edwin Stahl, born September 10, 1903. Three children died in infancy.

Mr. Rutledge is a member of the Masonic order, being a Knight Templar, and he is also affiliated with the Knights of Pythias. He belongs to the Church of Christ. He is secretary of The Kenton Gas & Electric Company, and is a director of The Home Savings & Loan Company. He is well known throughout Hardin county, where his entire life has been spent, and is highly respected, having a multitude of friends. He is actively interested in public affairs, and politically supports the cause of the Republican party. He was chairman of the Hardin County Republican Central Committee for two years, and was recently selected as chairman of the Republican Executive Committee.

William Dible, a prominent and successful farmer of Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, was born near Tiffin, Ohio, March 10, 1846, and is a son of Frederick and Eureka Dible, both natives of Prussia. Frederick Dible emigrated to America with his family in 1836, and became one of the first pioneers of Wyandot county. He was a blacksmith by trade and worked many years near Tiffin. He died at Springville, Ohio, at the age of fifty-four years, and his widow died in 1894, at the age of fifty-four years. He was one of eight children. He and his wife were members of the German Lutheran church. They had children as follows: William; Henry, a farmer in Kansas; Ferdinand, a farmer of Seneca county, Ohio; Napoleon, a farmer of Ohio; and two daughters who are deceased.

After reaching the age of eighteen years William Dible cared for his mother and followed farming until her death. He worked for others four years and then for five years rented a farm. After living two years on a farm near Kenton he then located in that City and spent two years teaming and two years working in a factory. However, he preferred farming and for three years rented the Spensler farm. In 1890 Mr. Dible purchased his present farm of forty-two acres, where he made a specialty of high-bred horses. He has been very successful as a farmer and is now able to retire from the more active labor, though he still resides on his farm. He is a member of the local Grange and is well known in the community. He has many friends and has a reputation for honesty and industry. Politically he is a Republican, though he takes no active part in local affairs.

Mr. Dible married Martha Jane Smalley, who was born in Hancock county, daughter of George and Magdalena (Reinhart) Smalley; she died in 1907, at the age of fifty-five years. Mr. Smalley was a farmer and spent his entire life in Hancock county. Mr. Dible and his wife became the parents of children as follows: Lemuel C., of Kenton, Ohio, now thirty-six years of age, married Mary Roberts, and they have one child; Ferdinand Edward, of Taylor Creek township, married a Miss Wilcox, and they have three children; Clarence, of Kenton, married Maude Lane, and they have one child; Mary Alta; Lola Bell, who married John Bortsch, of Kenton, and they have one child; and Virgil Carlin, at home with his father.

Darius M. Sieg.—One of the prosperous young stock farmers of Hardin county, Ohio, is Darius M. Sieg, who lives in the brick house built by his grandfather, Jacob Sieg. Mr. Sieg was born on the farm where he now lives, March 22, 1884, and is a son of Paul K. and Margaret Evans. Paul Sieg was born in Augusta county, Virginia, June 5, 1818, and died March 27, 1884. He came to Hardin county, Ohio, with his father when fifteen years of age. His father, Jacob Sieg, was born in Pennsylvania, May 29, 1784, and died in Hardin county, January 26, 1855. He settled on the farm that is still in the family, and built a log cabin in the woods. He spent the remainder of his life here. He had two sons, Jonathan and Paul, both teachers. Jonathan was the first teacher in Taylor Creek township. Jacob Sieg moved to West Liberty, Ohio, in 1828, and from there to Hardin county in 1839. He built on his homestead the fine brick house that is still standing, and manufactured the brick for the same. This is the oldest and largest building of the kind in the section of Ohio where it is located. He married Lydia Haines May 3, 1810; she was born in Pennsylvania January 8, 1793, and died January 15, 1878.

Paul K. Sieg remained at home with his parents and helped carry on the farm, and at the death of his father he managed the home farm until his own demise. He was one of the pioneer members of the St. Paul Methodist church, and was elected its steward in 1856, serving until his death. He was elected a justice of the peace in 1852, served six years as township trustee, and for twenty-seven years acted as town-

ship treasurer. He was also a member of the Agricultural Board at its organization. Mr. Sieg was married, October 10, 1841, to Rebecca Van Meter, who was born June 18, 1816, and died in October, 1852. Of this union five children were born, the only one living being Lavinia, wife of H. C. Collett, of Ansonia, Ohio. Mr. Sieg married on April 7, 1854, Margaret McBeth, who died December 5, 1857. Two children were born to this union, both of whom are deceased. Mr. Sieg married for his third wife, March 27, 1859, Margaret E. Evans, born February 24, 1839. She is a daughter of David and Lovina (Price) Evans of Delaware county, Ohio. David Evans came to the United States from Wales, with his parents when four years old. He was a son of Thomas and Elizabeth Evans, who were farmers and settled first at Gallipolis and later in Delaware county. In 1853 David Evans moved to Hardin county and located in Buck township, where he died. He was born June 5, 1818, and died in 1884, and his wife died in 1890. Mrs. Sieg lives with her son, Darius M., on the old homestead. She has twenty-three grandchildren. Her children who survive are as follows: Henry, a farmer of Cessna township; Robert E., of Richwood, Ohio; Lovina, wife of William Cook, of Buck township; Jacob, a farmer, living near Mt. Victory; David, of Hale township; John, a farmer, of Taylor Creek township; Mary, at home; Paul K., a farmer of Buck Creek township; and Darius, the youngest child.

After attending the public school until fifteen years of age Darius M. Sieg attended Ada University three terms and then settled down to farming and stock raising on the home farm, where most of his life has been spent. He makes a specialty of sheep, hogs and cattle, and is very successful in this line. He is an industrious and enterprising young farmer, and his management of the farm is able and thorough. He is a member of the Methodist church and politically is a Republican, being at present a member of the school board.

In 1908 Mr. Sieg married Elizabeth Moser, born June 11, 1882, daughter of J. H. Moser, who died in 1895. He was a native of Switzerland, where Mrs. Sieg was born, and married Elizabeth Bassiger, who survives him. He brought his family direct to Kenton, Ohio. In his native country he worked at blacksmithing and iron furnace manufacturing. He and his wife had children as follows: Adolph, of Xenia, Ohio; Rose, wife of E. Born, of Kenton; Freda, a teacher, living in Kenton; Anna, John H. and Minnie, at home; Katherine and Carl, twins; and Helen, now deceased. Mr. Sieg and his wife have one child, Richard Moser, born November 6, 1909.

Charles H. Ricketts, a successful baker of Mt. Victory, Ohio, was born in Logan county, March 8, 1871, and is a son of William A. Ricketts a native of the city of New York, a son of George Ricketts of New York state. William A. Ricketts came with his parents to Ohio before the Civil war, and they settled in Logan county. His father, after the death of his wife, moved to Lima, Ohio, where he died in 1887, at the age of eighty-eight years.

William A. Ricketts was a carpenter and cabinet-maker, having

learned the trade at Bellefontaine, Ohio; he spent two years working at his trade at Toledo, and in 1861 he enlisted in the Thirteenth Ohio, serving four years and nine months. He participated in many of the important battles of the war and at its close married Mary Jane Wheeler, who is now sixty-six years of age. She is a daughter of Robert and Jane Wheeler, of Pennsylvania. Mr. Ricketts still follows his trade at Bellefontaine, Ohio, and has now reached the age of sixty-eight years. Besides Charles H. he had children as follows: Lyda, Eddie, Addie, Bertha, Margaret, George, Robert and John.

The education of Charles H. Ricketts was acquired in the public schools and he lived on his father's farm until twenty-one years of age. He then learned the trade of baker at Bellefontaine, and worked at same there until 1902, then removed to Van Wert, and for one year was engaged in the bakery and confectionery business. He sold out and returned to Bellefontaine, where for three years he was employed as foreman by the Richter Baking Company. In 1908 he located in Mt. Victory to take charge of the present bakery. He is thorough master of his trade and has won a reputation for fine work in his line.

Mr. Ricketts married Fannie A. Longfellow who was born February 16, 1870, daughter of Rev. J. M. Longfellow a Methodist Episcopal pastor at Bellefontaine. His wife, Hannah J. (Hartley) Longfellow, died in 1905, at the age of seventy-eight years, and he is now eighty-two. Mr. Ricketts and his wife became parents of children as follows: Mary, aged sixteen, wife of Charles Palmer, of North Dakota; Bernice, aged fourteen, attending school; Van Arthur, aged twelve; Miles, aged six; and Byron, aged two years. In his business relations Mr. Ricketts has always shown a strict adherence to the highest principles, and he has won his success in life through his own efforts. He has always paid close attention to his work and financial interests, and has good business judgment. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mrs. Nancy (Norman) Bailey, who lives on her farm in Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, has been a resident of the county since childhood. She was born in Jefferson county, Ohio, February 13, 1832, a daughter of James and Mary (Brown) Norman, the former of Virginia. Mr. Norman came to Taylor Creek township when his daughter was eleven years of age. The family came by wagon and had two yoke of oxen for making the trip. They stopped on their way at Wheeler's Tavern, on the Sandusky Road, also at Furney's Tavern in Kenton. They located opposite the present home of Mrs. Bailey and took up one hundred and twenty-five acres of land, there being then but one house between their farm and Kenton,—the Scott house. Their first home was a hewed log affair, and at the raising of the house little Nancy did all the cooking, providing food for all who attended, though she was then only eleven years old. Mrs. Norman died in 1869. Mrs. Bailey is the only survivor of the family of five children. James Norman was a son of Henry and Nancy (Knotts) Norman.

Nancy Norman spent her girlhood on a farm and in 1849 she

married Silas Bailey, who was born in Logan county, Ohio, in 1824, a son of William and Mary (Olcott) Bailey, who married in 1817. William Bailey was born in Martinsburg, Virginia, and moved to Hardin county in 1827; he died December 6, 1853. After their marriage Mr. Bailey and his wife lived some time in a small cabin on the Norman place, and in 1868 came to what is the present family homestead. They began housekeeping there in a small log cabin which is now in the rear of the pleasant, modern farm house. Mr. Bailey was a successful farmer and stock raiser and an enterprising, progressive citizen, who was actively interested in public affairs and in every good cause. He enlisted in the Union army in 1864, serving until the end of the war, in Company B, One Hundred and Seventy-ninth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He died March 10, 1882, and his loss was mourned by a large circle of friends. He and his wife became the parents of children as follows: Nathaniel, deceased; Jonathan, a farmer of Buck township, married Sarah Frey; Martha, wife of W. Bailey, had one child, Cora, who married W. Short, and she is deceased; Fletcher, of Goshen township, married Ida Kelley, and they have three children; B. Wells, married Joan Newell and lives in Georgia; Curtis, living at home, married Ada Stevenson, and they have one child. Martha and Curtis both live with their mother and care for her interests. Mrs. Bailey is well known in the community, having spent so large a part of her life in the township, and has a large circle of friends. She is blessed with good health and after a life of industry and toil enjoys a well-earned rest. She is a member of the Disciples church.

George Elmer Mitchell, a prominent farmer and a justice of the peace of Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, Ohio, is a native of Franklin county, Ohio, born July 13, 1861. He is a son of Charles and Nancy M. (Drake) Mitchell, both natives of Ohio, the former born in Franklin county and the latter in the southern part of the state. Charles Mitchell died in 1898, at the age of sixty-four years. He was a son of Hugh Mitchell, a native of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, who moved with his parents to Dublin, Ohio, where they bought a piece of land with the expectation that the state capital would be located there. Hugh Mitchell spent the remainder of his life in this vicinity and died in 1862, at the age of sixty years.

After attending the district school until a young man Charles Mitchell helped his father with the work of the farm and remained with his parents until after his marriage, when he rented a farm and also worked by the day. In 1867 he moved to Hardin county and remained in Lynn township until his death, which took place in 1898. In May, 1864, Mr. Mitchell enlisted in the Union army for one hundred days' service, in Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-third Ohio National Guard, and was discharged in September of the same year. He was a Republican in his political views, and for several terms served as township clerk; he also served as a justice of the peace. He married Nancy M. Drake, daughter of James H. and Caroline (Marshall) Drake, the former a United Brethren minister from southern Ohio. Charles

Mitchell and his wife had children as follows: George E.; Clementine, wife of William Burger, of Kenton; Auta, living with her mother at Kenton; Lester, a farmer; Caroline, wife of Gilbert Hamilton and lives in Columbus: Beecher, living on the home farm; Emma, wife of R. W. Longbrake; and Elsoda, wife of James B. Mitchell of Altoona, Pennsylvania.

George E. Mitchell attended the country schools and received a fair education. He remained with his parents until his marriage in 1888, and then began farming for himself. Politically he is a Republican, and is active in the interests of the party. He has been a member of the school board and township clerk, besides holding other township offices. In 1896 Mr. Mitchell was elected a justice of the peace and in 1910 he was again elected to this responsible office. He served ten years as a member of the state militia, and while belonging to this organization attended the funeral of the martyred Garfield, at Cleveland, being part of the guard on duty. He was also at the Cincinnati riots. Mr. Mitchell has the full confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens and makes a good public official. He gives the affairs of the public the same thoughtful and careful consideration he does his own private affairs, and is popular with all parties.

Mr. Mitchell married Minnie M. Richards, who was born March 4, 1872, daughter of Ira C. Richards, a veteran of the Civil war, who has now attained the age of sixty-five years. Mr. Richards is a retired farmer and Methodist Episcopal preacher. He is a native of Hardin county and son of Leonard Richards, who came to Hardin county from Ross county, Ohio, and was a Methodist preacher, as was also his father, James. Ira C. Richards married Bethany Evans, who has now reached the age of sixty-seven years. She is a daughter of David and Lavina (Price) Evans. Mr. Mitchell and his wife have had children as follows: Bessie, born in 1889, a graduate of the Kenton high school and now living in Kenton; Ira, born in 1892, at home; Wilbur, born in 1896, attending school; Avice, born in 1899; Dora, born in 1902; DeArlo, born in 1905; Earnestine, born in 1907; Margaret, born in 1909; and three deceased, Ernest, Theresa and Everett.

Otis Marion Hopkins.—Among the most enterprising and successful farmers and stockmen of Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, is Otis M. Hopkins, who was born on the farm where he still resides December 12, 1865, a son of Marion and Elmira (Bailey) Hopkins. His great-grandfather, Archibald Hopkins, was born in 1791, and died August 15, 1879. He married Jemimah Gosley, who died January 14, 1834. Their son Robert, born July 3, 1820, died March 30, 1877. He married Sallie Robertson, who was born October 28, 1819, and died March 15, 1884. Their son Marion was born in Logan county, Ohio, in 1842, and in 1850 moved with his parents to the present family homestead, where they took up a homestead of one hundred and fifty acres of Woodland. They erected a log house and spent the remainder of their lives on this farm.

Marion Hopkins remained with his parents as a young man, teach-

ing school winters and helping with the farm work summers. He enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, serving until the close of the war. After returning home he spent the remainder of his life farming, and died November 28, 1870, of sickness contracted during the military service. He was a Republican in political views and held many townships offices. His wife was born September 26, 1841, and died August 1, 1867. She was a daughter of Silas and Harriet (Stevenson) Bailey, of this community.

The only child of Marion Hopkins and his wife now surviving is Otis M., the subject of this biography. He received his education in the common schools. He was a small boy when his mother died, and only four years of age at the time of the death of his father. He was reared by his grandparents and they died before he was eighteen years of age. He is now owner of the family homestead and carries on farming and stock raising with excellent success. Mr. Hopkins is a prominent and influential citizen and actively interested in public affairs. He is a stanch Republican and has rendered valuable service in the interests of his party. He has held various public offices and discharged his duties in a manner that was highly satisfactory and proved his ability and good judgment. Mr. Hopkins served three terms as township clerk, two terms as county infirmary director, and has also acted as delegate to state and congressional conventions. He is well known and popular in the community and has many friends. He belongs to the United Presbyterian church of Silver Creek, to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Kenton and also to the Elks at Kenton.

On June 1, 1887, Mr. Hopkins married Maggie J. Stevenson, daughter of Homer and Mary Ann (Hullinger) Stevenson, who are given more extensive mention elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Stevenson is a widow and resides on her farm in Taylor Creek township. Mrs. Hopkins was born April 11, 1865. She is also a member of the United Presbyterian church, and is active in the work of the missionary society and other church work.

John M. Fisher, a retired farmer and stock dealer of Taylor Creek township, was born in Logan county, Ohio, January 31, 1843, a son of John H. and Elizabeth (Marshall) Fisher. John H. Fisher was a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, born in 1808, and he moved to Stark county, Ohio, when a young man. He returned to his native state, where he was married, and later removed to Logan county, Ohio, where he took up forty-five acres of land in the timber. He built a cabin and improved his land, spending the remainder of his life on this farm; he added more land from time to time and at his death, in 1874, owned one hundred and twenty-five acres. In early life he was a Presbyterian, but as there was no organization of that denomination in the neighborhood where he lived he finally joined the Christian church. Mrs. Fisher was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, in 1807, and was a daughter of Conrad Marshall; she died in 1875. Besides John M. they had another son, Conrad N. Fisher, M. D., of Rushsylvania, Ohio.

After attending the local schools and securing a good education John M. Fisher helped his father on the farm and at the same time taught four terms during the Civil war. He remained with his parents until 1873, then moved to Hardin county, where he first purchased one hundred acres of land, where he now lives. Later he added one hundred and forty acres more, and still later added more land until he now owns three hundred acres. A large part of his land was in the swamp, but he has made all modern improvements and has his land in a high state of cultivation. He has erected a comfortable home and is very successful in his enterprise. He is engaged extensively in stock raising also and feeds a number of cattle each winter. He ships to market in carload lots. For two years from 1880 he was in partnership with William Callahan, of Logan county, and they shipped extensively. Later he engaged in partnership with Marshall Stewart, shipping stock and buying wool. He has carried on business in this line for fifteen years in Hardin county.

Some years ago Mr. Fisher located in Kenton, and there continued dealing in stock, but six years later he returned to his farm, where he now lives. He has retired from active business life, but keeps well informed as to his business interests. He is one of the most successful and influential citizens of the county, and his reputation as a stock and wool dealer has traveled over a wide territory. Politically he is a Democrat, and he served two terms as township trustee. He is well known in the community and is recognized as one of the public spirited, representative men of the county.

In 1865 Mr. Fisher married Anna E. Musselman, born July 22, 1846, in Logan county, Ohio, a daughter of Jerome and Elizabeth (Ansley) Musselman. Her father was born and reared in Virginia and came to Ohio with his parents, Michael and Ann (Coover) Musselman. Mrs. Fisher's father died in 1903 and her mother in 1874. She was a daughter of William and Elizabeth Ansley. Besides Mrs. Fisher they had children as follows: Mary, wife of Thomas Kautzman, of Indiana; Leah, widow of L. Carson, of Marion, Ohio; Georgie, wife of E. E. Wickersham, of Logan county, Ohio; and Lucian, a farmer of Taylor Creek township. Mr. Fisher and his wife became the parents of children as follows: Louis N. who married Myrtle Collins; Willis, on the home farm, married Eva Swallow, daughter of John and Harriet (Copp) Swallow, of Kenton, and they have three children, Hazel, Mabel, and Mary; Charles E., living in the west, married Mary Williams, and they have two children, Ralph and Evangeline; Mary Elizabeth married Marshall Porter, an undertaker of Kenton, and they have one child, Emerson; Claude, living in the west, married Mary Carr, and they have one child, Francis; Hattie married G. A. Vincent, a merchant of Hiram, Portage county, and they have one child, Myron. Mrs. Fisher is a member of the Disciples church of Kenton, and is an active worker in the Ladies' Aid Society. Mr. Fisher has gained success in life mainly through his own efforts. He is a keen business man of sound judgment, and has made the most of his opportunities. He still owns the family homestead where he was born, in Logan county.

HON. FRANK B. WILLIS.—Talented and cultured, of broad and progressive views, Hon. Frank B. Willis, of Ada, teacher of Law and Economics at the Ohio Northern University, has long been a conspicuous figure in educational circles, and is also widely known in the political world. His literary and scholastic attainments have obtained wide recognition, and he has won a far more than local reputation, not only as an able and popular instructor, a brilliant and forcible lecturer, but as a leader in the Republican ranks, and as an earnest champion of needed reformatory measures. A native of Ohio, he was born, December 28, 1871, in Lewis Center, Delaware county, a son of J. B. Willis. He is of substantial New England ancestry, his grandfather, Buckley H. Willis, having been a resident of Vermont, while his great-grandfather, enlisting from Massachusetts, served as a soldier in the war of 1812.

Although born and bred in the Green Mountain state, J. B. Willis has spent the greater part of his life in Delaware county, Ohio, being now one of the prominent citizens of Galena, and an influential member of the Republican party. Inheriting the spirit of patriotism that inspired his ancestors, he volunteered in defence of his country in 1862, and served bravely in the Civil war. He married, in 1857, Lavina Buell, and to them three children were born, as follows: Lloyd M., of Chicago, Illinois; Buell B., a prosperous agriculturist; and Frank B., with whom this sketch is chiefly concerned.

Laying a substantial foundation for his future education in the district schools of his native county, Frank B. Willis subsequently attended the Galena high school, where he won an excellent record for scholarship. Entering the Ohio Northern University in 1890, he was graduated from that institution with the class of 1893, and immediately accepted the professorship of the chair of Political Economy, Civil Government and United States History. A diligent and persistent student, with a natural taste and talent for legal study and work, Professor Willis was admitted to the Ohio bar in 1906, and is now teaching Law and Economics in the College of Law, of the Ohio Northern University.

Throughout his useful career as an educator Mr. Willis has met with distinguished success. Since 1900 he has been actively engaged for six or more weeks each year as a lecturer before Teachers' Institutes, his work in that direction covering twenty-five Ohio counties, and nearly as many in Pennsylvania; in the summer of 1910 several counties in Ohio and also in Indiana, receiving the advantage and benefit of his lectures on American History and Civics.

With patriotism as a virtue and an inheritance, Professor Willis has kept in touch with the politics of county, state and nation since early manhood, and in 1894 made his first appearance as a political speaker. In 1896 he stumped the state in behalf of McKinley's election to the presidency, and in 1899 he was elected to the General Assembly from Hardin county, and served his fellow citizens to such good purpose that he was reelected to the same office in 1901, this time his previous good majority of votes being largely increased. During his later term in the House, he was chairman of the committee on insurance, and a member of

the committee on taxation, and took an active part in all debates on tax-reform measures. He was also vice chairman, or chairman pro tem, of the House Committee of twenty-three chosen to formulate a municipal code for the government of Ohio. Through the administration of the Willis Law, of which he was the framer, the state treasury is richer by far than it otherwise would be, while the revenues produced by its enactment have made it possible to reduce the taxes of the farmer and the home owner.

A candidate for congressional honors in 1904, Professor Willis was defeated in a long drawn out convention, famous in the history of the eighth district, his opponent being Hon. Ralph D. Cole, for whom he afterwards took the stump, working vigorously for his, and for the Republican party's success. Again a candidate for congress in 1908, the professor was again defeated after some eleven hundred ballots in the two spectacular and exciting conventions at Marysville and Kenton. In 1910 he was again a candidate for congress on the Republican ticket at the primary.

Since entering politics, Mr. Willis has been a simon pure Republican and is of that thorough kind known as progressive. He is a supporter and admirer of President Taft, whom he holds to be a great constructive statesman and an executive doing his best for his country. On the tariff question, Professor Willis adheres to the pledge which says: "In all tariff legislation the true principle of protection is best maintained by the imposition of such duties as will equalize the difference between cost of production at home and abroad together with a reasonable profit to American industries." On the wool question, his attitude is one that is satisfactory to the growers of the district. There are various reasons for the wool growers' confidence: Mr. Willis became an advocate of wool protection, when as a boy he heard Major McKinley speak on the question; all of the Willis people on "both sides of the house" have been wool-growers and dealers, Mr. Willis's father having been for years one of the prominent sheep men of the county and an uncle was the original Merino sheep man of Delaware county. Being the son of an old soldier, Mr. Willis has always been the eloquent champion of the rights of war veterans and is an associate member of Ada Post of the G. A. R. The Willis Guards of that town was named in his honor because of his work and interest in the cause of patriotism.

Mr. Willis is an active supporter of the Y. M. C. A. and other young peoples' societies, and on the platform of religious organizations he is a familiar, popular and eloquent speaker, his, often times impromptu addresses being full of courage, good cheer and inspiration to his hearers. In an informal talk to the members of the Presbyterian Brotherhood at Kenton, in the summer of 1907, he expressed a strong belief in the theory that right shall conquer, and made a plea for right living and right thinking in our daily walks of life.

Professor Willis married, in 1894, Allie Dustin, a daughter of John and Hannah Dustin, of Galena, Ohio, and they have one child, Helen Willis.

HORACE E. SPONSLER.—Prominent among the extensive land owners and progressive agriculturists of Hardin county is Horace E. Sponsler, proprietor of one of the most attractive and valuable estates in McDonald township. A native of Hardin county, he was born August 13, 1854, in Taylor Creek township, a son of Jacob Sponsler.

Jacob Sponsler was born and brought up in Pennsylvania, and there married Margaret Slonaker, also a Pennsylvanian by birth. Migrating to Hardin county, he bought a tract of wild land in Taylor Creek township, and from the dense forest cleared and improved a homestead. The Sponsler family has ever been distinguished for its patriotism and loyalty to country, three of its members serving in the Civil war, George in the Artillery, Winfield B. in the Infantry, while Alvin served for more that three years in the Eleventh Ohio Volunteer Cavalry.

Horace E. Sponsler received his early education in the district schools of his native township, and on the home farm was well trained in the various branches of agriculture. Finding the occupation of farming both pleasant and profitable, he decided to make it his life work, and began his operations by purchasing fifty acres of land in Taylor Creek township, to which he subsequently added by purchasing eighty-five acres of adjoining land. At the end of four years he sold out at an advantage, and bought one hundred and eighty-seven acres of the land now included in his present farm, in McDonald township. Successful in his undertakings, Mr. Sponsler has added to the size of his farm, which now contains three hundred and fifteen acres as fine farming land as can be found in this part of Hardin county. He has made improvements of an excellent character, and is carrying on general farming with most satisfactory results, and, with his son, who assists him, owns and manages a threshing outfit. Since becoming of age, Mr. Sponsler has supported the principles of the Republican party by voice and vote, but has never had official aspirations.

On July 29, 1884, Mr. Sponsler was united in marriage with Margaret Jane Carson, a daughter of William S. and Jane Carson, of Kenton. William Edwin Sponsler, the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Sponsler, was born August 11, 1885, and has always lived with his parents, assisting in the management of the farm. He married Bessie C. Claypool, and they have one child, Margaret Alice, born May 14, 1907.

GENERAL DAVID THOMSON.—A man of whom all Hardin county felt justly proud during life and whose memory is held in tender reverence today is General David Thomson, who left in his war record a noble legacy not only to his family but to the people of his county and state. He died at his residence in Kenton, Ohio, in which he had lived many years, February 2, 1893. General Thomson was a native of Ohio, born in Marion county, April 27, 1823. He married Miss Margaret Espy, a native of Philadelphia and became a resident of Hardin county in 1849. He engaged in the practice of law, and continued in this occupation until the beginning of the Civil war. In his service in behalf of his country he distinguished himself so that the expression was often

made "Never did a braver man wear shoe leather." His record began with the formation of Company A of the Eighty-second Ohio, of which he was chosen captain. He was soon afterward appointed major of the regiment and after the battle of Bull Run he was made lieutenant-colonel. March 13, 1865, he was made a brigadier general, for "gallant and meritorious service during the war." He had many narrow escapes and figured as a hero in sixteen battles. At Peach Tree Creek his life was saved by his pocket-knife, which was shattered to pieces. He made a fine record at the most important battle of Gettysburg, where a horse was shot from under him. His heroic conduct at this battle was testified by a magnificent sword which was presented to him by the Eighty-second, and on it was this inscription: "Presented to Colonel David Thomson by the non-commissioned officers and privates of the Eighty-second regiment as a token of their appreciation of his noble conduct at Gettysburg, July 1, 2, and 3, 1863." He never fully recovered from the severe wounds he recived at the battle of Averysboro.

Among the battles in which he participated were: Cedar Mountain, Bull Run, Wauhatchie Valley, Resaca, Culp's Farm, Nancy Creek, Peach Tree Creek, Savannah and Averysboro, in all of which he commanded the brave boys of the Eighty-second. He was wounded at Dallas, and during the siege of Atlanta he commanded the regiment, when they were under fire continuously from June 29 to August 25.

General Thomson was a man to whom his friends gave their warmest affection and confidence. He was a pleasant and friendly companion, being most refined in his tastes and fond of the finer things of life, He was entertaining in conversation, being full of general information, and was most highly esteemed by his comrades in arms, as well as by all who came to know and appreciate his high character and blameless life. As an amateur artist of landscape painting, he possessed unusual ability.

In the Masonic Order, as in all other places where he met with his fellows, General Thomson was highly regarded. He was initiated into Latham Lodge No. 154 F. & A. M., in November, 1853, and in December, 1857, was elected Worshipful Master, being re-elected the following year and again in 1865. He was a charter member of Scioto Chapter R. A. M. and was appointed its first High Priest. The following year (1870) he was elected to the same office, under the charter, and was reelected in 1871. He was buried with high Masonic honors as well as high Military honors and his funeral was one of the largest that ever took place in the community.

General Thomson's wife died in 1888. There remained of the family after his death two children: Metullis and Mary; Metullis and his wife Bessie, who was a daughter of General Moses B. Walker, removed with their family from Ohio a few years after the death of General Thomson and now reside in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Their family numbers four, three sons and one daughter, named respectively: Theodore Walker, Margaret Mary, Metullis, and Willis Irving. With Mr. Metullis Thomson and his family, also resides Mary, the unmarried daughter of General David Thomson.

Mrs. Sarah Simpson, of Mount Victory, Ohio, widow of William Simpson, who died May 7, 1883, was born July 8, 1835. William Simpson was born in Licking county, Ohio, and was a son of Solomon and Ellen Simpson, who came from Licking county to Hardin county. They were among the earliest settlers of the latter county, and were very strong Methodists. William Simpson was reared on a farm, and lived with his parents until the time of his marriage, when he rented a farm for himself. In 1865 he removed to Mount Victory and there purchased a home. He was engaged in railroad work, and was one of the builders of the railroad now known as the "Big Four." Later he engaged in cutting and hauling timber which he continued the remainder of his life.

William Simpson enlisted in Company I, One Hundred Thirty-second Ohio National Guard, December 15, 1864, and was discharged after serving one hundred days. He was the victim of sunstroke while on guard duty, and never recovered from the effects. He was an active member of the Methodist church, and took great interest in public affairs. He was well known and highly respected in the community, and his loss was widely felt. He was a man of undoubted integrity, and greatly esteemed for his high character and pleasant, friendly manner.

Mr. Simpson's parents, Davis and Susan (Hann) Crane, were farmers, and came to Ohio from New Jersey, settling in Logan county. They were members of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Simpson and his wife became the parents of children as follows: David Edgar, Mack, Amanda and Ruth. David E., a merchant of Mount Victory, married Ida Frey, and they have one child, Rose. Mack, a farmer of Hale township, Hardin county, married Susan Allen, and they have one child. Amanda, wife of Ham Cramer, a farmer of Hale township, has two children. Ruth married Clint Bird, also a farmer in Hale township.

William Simpson has three brothers surviving, namely: Sam, retired and living in West Mansfield; David, a farmer of West Mansfield; and Sylvester.

Frank S. Chapman, the introduction of the telephone system has, doubtless, been of more practical value to the residents of Hardin county than any other enterprise here established, not even excepting rural free delivery, which has been of inestimable value to the farmer, bringing the people in close communication with the events of the day, facilitating the business movements of the immediate neighborhood, the town, county, state, and even more remote parts of the Union. Actively identified with the success of this system is Frank S. Chapman, the well-known manager of the Kenton Home Telephone Company, at Kenton. A son of Wilson H. Chapman, he was born, December 15, 1871, in Seneca township, Lenawee county, Michigan.

Wilson H. Chapman, a native of Ashland county, Ohio, was brought up on a farm, and early became familiar with agricultural pursuits. When ready to begin life for himself he moved to Lenawee county, Michigan, where he purchased two farms, one lying in Seneca township, the other being situated just across the state line, in Ohio. After farming there a few years, he moved, in 1876, to Morenci, Michigan, which

was home for about twenty years. Settling then in Wayne county, Michigan, he resided there until his death, in 1907. He married Sarah G. Fink, who was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, a daughter of John Fink, and she is still living in Wayne county, Michigan. Six children were born of their union, namely: Emma Frantz, Louis, William W., Fred A., Frank, and Vernon A.

Having completed the studies in the public schools of Morenci, Michigan, Frank S. Chapman attended the Toledo high school, acquiring a substantial education. At the age of seventeen years began learning telegraphy, the following three years being in the employ of the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad Company as a telegraph operator. He was then made train despatcher, first at Jewell, Ohio, and later at Massillon. During that time Mr. Chapman studied chemistry, electricity and stenography, but the close attention to study and business impaired his health, and in 1895 he resigned his position with the railroad company, Going then to Toledo, Ohio, he was for four months inspector for the Central Union Telephone Company of that city, and subsequently had charge for two years of the Company's offices in Elkhart and Goshen, Indiana. Accepting then a position with the Bell Telephone Company, Mr. Chapman was manager of its Kenton office until 1903. Then, for nine months, he managed the Shelby office for the Shelby Telephone Company. Resigning that position, he became manager of the Kenton Home Telephone Company, which under his efficient management is carrying on a profitable business, and rendering to its numerous patrons most satisfactory service.

Mr. Chapman married in June, 1903, Maude Furney. She was born in Kenton, a daughter of Melvns and Almina Furney, and granddaughter of Colonel Furney, of whom a brief biographical sketch may be found on another page of this work. Fraternally Mr. Chapman is a member of Aminta Lodge No. 79, I. O. O. F. of Scioto Encampment, No. 179; of Kenton Canton, No. 83, of which he is a patriarch militant; and of Latham Lodge, No. 154, F. & A. M. Both Mr. and Mrs. Chapman belong to the Daughters of Rebekah, and to Rispah Chapter, No. 53, O. E. S., of Shelby.

J. Edson Gordon.—During many years the name of J. Edson Gordon was interwoven with the history of the educational interests of Mt. Victory, an educator of well known ability. He was born near West Mansfield in Logan county, Ohio, on March 22, 1858, a son of John E. and Barbara E. (Keller) Gordon, and a grandson on the maternal side of Frederick and Rebecca Keller, who came from Virginia to Ohio about the year 1820. John E. Gordon was born in Loudon county, Virginia, in 1831, and he came with his parents, John Woodford and Elizabeth Gordon, to Ohio in 1835, living successively in Adams and Highland counties, and later near West Mansfield in Logan county, his death occurring at the latter place in 1899, and his wife Barbara had died at their country home there in 1882. John Woodford Gordon, born in Wales in 1797, died in Logan county, Ohio, in 1867. J. Edson Gordon was the second of the ten children born to John E. and Barbara Gordon,

two of his sisters dying in infancy and two after attaining the age of young womanhood, while six of the family, a sister and five brothers, are yet living, namely: J. Edson, of Mt. Victory; John E., living at West Mansfield; Ransom D. and Robert F., both of Bowling Green; Charles A., of Union county; and Mrs. Mary E. Barber, who resides with her family on the old homestead near West Mansfield.

J. Edson Gordon spent the first seventeen years of his life on the parental homestead, attending meanwhile the country schools, and at the age of seventeen he entered upon his career as an educator, teaching in the country schools of Logan and Union counties. After a time he entered Ridgeville College at Ridgeville, Indiana, later passing to the Ohio Normal University at Ada, Ohio, and he completed his training at the Champion City Commercial College at Springfield. Followng this splendid college training Mr. Gordon served seven years as superintendent of the public schools of West Mansfield and thirteen years in the same capacity in the schools of Mt. Victory, where he yet resides.

He was married in 1885 to Miss Nora A. Saylor, from New Carlisle, Ohio, and she is yet a primary teacher in the Mt. Victory public schools. Their family consists of a daughter Imogene, a teacher in the public schools of Alger, Ohio; a son Chester S., a student in the Ohio State University at Columbus; and Louva E., who is with her parents at Mt. Victory. Mr. Gordon during the past six years has been a member of the Hardin county board of school examiners, and he still retains his interest in educational affairs although he is not at present engaged in school work.

Albert Grant Willauer, the enterprising manager of the lumber company at Mt. Victory, is a native of that town, born December 11, 1881, son of Theodore Willauer, now aged fifty-nine years, and Nancy (Latimer) Willauer, now fifty-six years of age. Besides Albert G. they had children as follows: Essie, operator at Mt. Victory; John, of Mt. Victory, a timber buyer; Edward, an electrician; Roy, an operator; Frank, a lineman; Willis, a clerk; Fannie, a clerk; and Helen, living at home.

Albert G. Willauer received his education in the public schools, and at the age of sixteen years took up the trade of carpenter, which he continued until 1905, when he became manager of the present lumber company of Mt. Victory. They are doing a prosperous business, and are established on a firm foundation.

Mr. Willauer is actively interested in public affairs, politically is a Democrat, and is at present serving as a member of the city council. He is a public-spirited citizen, well known and highly respected. Mr. Willauer belongs to the Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Mt. Victory, and to the Elks of Kenton, Ohio.

January 20, 1902, Mr. Willauer married Anna, daughter of Milton and Lydia Jane (Riley) Mills, born December 21, 1882, in Marion county, Ohio. Milton Mills was born September 10, 1850, in Marion county, Ohio. His wife, a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Powell) Riley, died in 1905, at the age of fifty-two years. William Riley was a

pioneer of Marion county, and now lives at Larue, Ohio, at the age of eighty-six years. Milton Mills is a house mover and lives with his wife at Larue; he is a son of Hiram Mills, born February 8, 1822, and married Ann Lake, who died in 1856, aged thirty-seven years. Hiram Mills is a carpenter by trade, and is a son of Richard Mills, born in New Jersey, in 1791. Richard Mills married Julia Wells, and they came to Marion county in 1822; their son Hiram was the first white child born in the county. When they settled first in Marion county Tom Lyons was the head medicine man among the Wyandot tribe of Indians, still living there.

Milton Mills and his wife had children as follows: Anna; William, a horse dealer of Marion, Ohio; Ida, wife of E. J. Davis; Ottie, wife of M. M. Pierce, lumber dealer, of Columbus, Ohio; and Bessie, living at home. Mrs. Willauer graduated at Larue in 1900, at the age of eighteen years. She is a member of the Methodist church, the Pythian Sisters of Mt. Victory, holding the office of Protector, and also belongs to the Rebekah Lodge of Mt. Victory. Mr. Willauer and his wife have one daughter, Ruth Ellen, born September 30, 1903.

Philip A. Brielmaier, one of the agriculturists of Lynn township, was born in Kenton, Hardin county, Ohio, April 1, 1877, a son of Philip and Margaret (Biehle) Brielmaier, the father born in Swatzwalt, Germany, and the mother in Springfield, Ohio. Philip Brielmaier came to the United States when thirteen years of age, and locating in Cincinnati, Ohio, he grew to mature years there, and later spent a short time in Covington, Kentucky. The Biehle family had in the meantime located in Cincinnati, and it was at White Oak in Hamilton county that the young couple became acquainted and were married. They continued to live there until going to Pickaway, Ohio, and later they came to Kenton, where the husband and father died in 1900, being still survived by his widow.

Philip A. Brielmaier attended the parochial schools near his boyhood's home until he was twelve years old, and since then he has given his entire attention to agricultural pursuits, being now one of the leading farmers and stock raisers of Lynn township. He married Marie DeRaad, who was born in Iowa. Her parents died during her infancy, and going to Nebraska she was there married to Mr. Brielmaier on the 15th of July, 1906, and their two children are Margaret B. and Frederick, born respectively on the 7th of March, 1908, and on the 3d of October, 1909. The family are members of the Catholic church at Kenton, and in politics Mr. Brielmaier affiliates with the Democratic party.

Charles Vermillion has the distinction of being the oldest business man in point of years of continuous service in West Foraker. He located in Foraker in 1898, and in the same year opened a general mercantile store, and he is also engaged in the handling of coal. He owns all of his own buildings, and is conducting a prosperous and remunerative business.

Mr. Vermillion was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, November 6, 1846, a son of William and Mary (McLain) Vermillion. When their son Charles was but a year old Mr. and Mrs. Vermillion moved to Virginia, but after a short time in that state they returned to Ohio and located in Guernsey county, which remained their home for several years. From there they finally came to Licking county, and in 1880 to Hardin county, where William Vermillion passed away in death in 1908, dying in the city of Kenton. Charles Vermillion, the son, was reared as a farmer lad, but later he learned the trade of a wagon and carriage maker and followed those trades for twenty-five years at Kirkersville, owning his own plant. In 1873 he was married to Jane Fairchild, and a son, Carl, was born to them on the 9th of August, 1877. He is a graduate of telegraphy at the Northern Indiana Normal University at Valparaiso, and is the present operator at Foraker. He married Ida Page, and they have two children. Mr. Charles Vermillion is allied with the Democrats in politics, and during two years he was the assessor of Cessna township.

Jesse Shark.—One of the substantial and successful farmers of Dudley township, Hardin county, Ohio, is Jesse Shark, who is now retired from active business life, though he still resides on his fine farm. Mr. Shark was born in West Virginia, October 14, 1825, and is a son of Jonathan and Betsey (Edgar) Shark, the former of whom, a native of Virginia, died in 1853. He removed to Union county, Ohio, about 1825, settling near Peoria, where he took up a farm, and later moved to a farm near Somerville, where he remained about ten years, and after the death of his wife, in 1836, he discontinued keeping house.

After the death of his mother Jesse Shark remained with his father, and received his education in Ohio, although he attended school but little. He was one of ten children, and has two sisters living: Clarissy, wife of Al Brown, a farmer, and Charlotte, wife of Sam Walker of Kenton.

Mr. Shark early learned to look out for himself, and when a boy began work for the meager sum of two dollars per month and his board. In 1862 he settled down to farming on his own account. He worked eighteen years for one man, then farmed two years in Madison county, returned to his old employer for a time, and then bought a farm which he farmed ten years.

Mr. Shark enlisted in the army for service during the Civil war, in Company B, Eighth Ohio, and later transferred to the Fourth Ohio, at Cold Harbor. He fought under Grant and Hancock, serving until the end of the war. He stood guard at his post at the time General Lee surrendered, and his regiment was the first in the capital. Several times he was slightly wounded, and he was mustered out in July, 1865. He returned home and four years later located in Hardin county; in 1885 he settled on his present homestead, and he has one of the finest farm houses in his section of the county. Politically he is a Republican and though he is actively interested in public affairs, he does not care for public office. He has been hardworking and thrifty all his life, and

has well earned his days of ease and comfort. He is a man of strict honesty and in his business dealings has always been governed by good business principles.

Mr. Shark married Elizabeth (Betsey) Holycross, who has now reached the age of seventy-four years. She is a daughter of James Holycross, also from Virginia, who removed to Marion county, Ohio. To this union ten children have been born, namely: Mollie, wife of John Macombs, of Magnetic Springs, has two children; Jason, married Ann Lynn and has two children; and Irene, wife of Ely Milligan, who has two children; William, married Louisa Moore and they have two children, Fred, unmarried, and Mary, wife of E. Terrill, of Indiana, who has three children; Emily, deceased, left five children, of whom one, Maggie, Mrs. Valentine, of Kenton, Ohio, has one child; Albert, of Magnetic Springs, married Louise Longstoff, and they have three children, of whom Merrill married Madge Hite, and Ethel, the wife of B. Dewitt, has one child; George, of Kenton, married Emma Bachman, and they have two children; Rosetta, wife of Ed Hildreth, a farmer, has two children; Leroy, a farmer of Dudley township, married Grace Gorman and they have three children; Anna, deceased; Maude, wife of F. Warner, of Dudley township, has two children; and Howard, married Collie Stultz, and they have two children. The last named family live with Mr. Shark on the family homestead.

John W. Powell, a prosperous and prominent farmer and stock raiser of Hardin county, Ohio, was born in the county, in Marion township, December 15, 1858, and is a son of William and Nancy (Lions) Powell. William Powell was born in England, about 1821, and accompanied his parents to the United States when a small boy. They located in Hardin county, and there spent the remainder of their lives, on a farm in Marion township. Mr. Powell grew to manhood on his father's farm and married Nancy Lions, a native of Pennsylvania. To this union seven children were born, of whom four still survive (1910), namely: James Powell, of Kenton; Joseph, of Marion township; Sarah, wife of William Moore, of Liberty township; and John W.

The boyhood of John W. Powell was spent on a farm in Marion township, and when he was old enough he began helping with the work of the farm, attending school winters until seventeen years of age. He continued working on his father's farm until he reached his majority, when his mother was married a second time, to William Close, and the young man worked on the farm for him six years. Then in company with his brother Joseph, he carried on farming six years.

Mr. Powell married Emma Shetlon, and they became parents of one child, Opal, wife of Emmett Potter, of Cessna township. Mrs. Powell died in 1886 and Mr. Powell married (second) Miss Minnie Blooworth, a native of Liberty township. One son and three daughters were born to this union, namely: Ethel, a student in Ada high school; Beulah and Esther, attending district school, and Justin, born March 28, 1907.

Politically Mr. Powell is a Republican. In the summer of 1907 Mr. Powell erected his present fine residence, fitted with modern con-

veniences. His other buildings are in good order, and his land in a good state of cultivation. He owns one hundred and sixty-eight acres in section 1, Marion township, and aside from three years spent in Kenton and six years in Pleasant township, he has spent his entire life in Marion township. He is well known and highly respected, having a wide circle of friends.

E. E. JONES.—Occupying a leading position among the wide-awake, enterprising business men of Kenton, E. E. Jones is identified with the mercantile interests of Hardin county as a wholesale and retail dealer in grain, coal, and hay, having an extensive and remunerative trade. A life-long resident of Hardin county, he was born, September 30, 1860, in Dunkirk, a son of J. M. Jones.

Born, reared and educated in Knox county, Ohio, J. M. Jones came to Hardin county in early manhood, and here spent the remainder of his life, passing away July 3, 1907. He began his active career as a school teacher but afterwards engaged in agricultural pursuits, first in Washington township, but afterwards buying a farm in Blanchard township, where he tilled the soil to some purpose for many years. He married Elizabeth Miranda Gillen, who was born in Dover, New Jersey, seventy-four years ago, and is now a resident of Kenton. Her father, James Gillen, a stone and brick mason by trade, came with his family to Hardin county, and here spent his remaining days. Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Jones, namely: Caroline, deceased; B. K. Jones, M. D., of Kenton; E. E., the subject of this sketch; Ella, his twin sister, now the wife of Dr. W. D. Barnhill, of Fort Wayne, Indiana; Christopher and Charles, twins, both deceased; Dr. U. O., Adelbert, a twin brother of Dr. U. O., and John Morgan, of Lincoln, Nebraska, an assistant clerk in the railway mail service.

Having laid a good foundation for his future education in the district schools of Blanchard township, E. E. Jones completed his early studies in the State Normal School at Ada. Beginning life for himself, he was successfully employed in buying and shipping grain and hay in Dunkirk from 1885 until 1890. Coming from there to Kenton in the latter year, Mr. Jones has since developed a very large and profitable mercantile business as a wholesale and retail dealer in grain, hay and coal. He is also interested in agricultural pursuits, owning a farm of forty acres in this vicinity, and having a half interest in an estate of ninety acres.

Mr. Jones married, September 30, 1885, Delpha A. Taylor, who was born in Knox county, Ohio, but as a child came with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Taylor to Hardin county, and was here brought up, receiving her education in the Dunkirk schools. Two children have brightened the union of Mr. and Mrs. Jones, namely: Dean C. and Neil T. An earnest Republican in his political affiliations, and an active worker in his party, Mr. Jones was elected county treasurer in 1902, and served in that capacity two terms, being honored with a reelection in 1904. He is prominently identified with the Masonic fraternity, being a Royal Arch Mason, and a Knight Templar.

William Clark Winder, a prominent citizen of Mt. Victory, Ohio, was born in Hale township, Hardin county, Ohio, April 28, 1868. His father, Elihu Winder, who lived on the old Wilson farm in Hale township, was born in Stark county, Ohio, and died December 16, 1904, at the age of seventy-three years. He was left an orphan when a small child, and with his two brothers and three sisters was reared by his grandfather, Thomas Bloomfield. Elihu Winder came to Hardin county, Ohio, at the age of twenty-one years, and worked on a farm for Thomas McCall, until his marriage, when he carried on the present farm of his father-in-law, John C. Garwood. In 1884 he settled on the Hampton farm in Dudley township, where he remained until 1901, and in that year located near Kenton, where he carried on farming until his death. He was a member of the United Brethren church of Mt. Victory, but never greatly interested in political matters.

Elihu Winder enlisted in Company H, One Hundred Twenty-first Ohio Infantry, under General Sigel. He was with Ferd Kopp and George Ansley, when Boyd was shot between them, at Maryland Heights. He served four months and was mustered out in 1865. Mr. Winder married Hopy Garwood, now living, at the age of sixty-seven years, with a daughter in Buck township, Hardin county. Besides William C., the children of Elihu Winder and his wife were: Louis W., of Marion, in insurance business; Maud, a music teacher, living in Buck township with her mother; Rebecca, died at the age of forty-six years, and Rockey, died at the age of thirty years. Mr. Winder has two sisters living, namely: Anna, wife of Thomas Moreland, of Elkhart county, Indiana, and one other.

The education of William C. Winder was acquired in his native county, and he attended Mt. Victory schools until sixteen years old. He then helped his father on the farm and remained at home until twenty years of age, when he began learning the trade of barber, which he has worked at for the past twenty-one years. He is also engaged in the accident, life and fire insurance business, and for the past fifteen years has also worked at paper-hanging and decorating work. He is a good workman, and skillful in all the work he undertakes. His industry and honesty are well recognized, and he is held in high esteem by all who know him.

January 5, 1888, Mr. Winder married Anna M. Ponelson, born August 1, 1868, daughter of Rob and Susanna (Shanks) Ponelson. Mr. Winder and his wife became parents of children as follows: William C., Jr., born October 14, 1888, a student, living at home; Storley, born April 5, 1895; Lucille, June 16, 1898; Robert E. March 26, 1900; Richard Carvel, February 22, 1902; Martin, February, 1904; Helen, June 26, 1906; and Minnie, September 26, 1908. Mr. Winder and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias of Mt. Victory, and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having passed through the chairs of the latter; he also served twelve years as record-keeper of the K. O. T. M., of which he is a member. Politically he is a Republican, and served as corporation and township clerk eight terms each, or sixteen years.

JOHN S. SCOTT.—Among the most substantial and influential business men of Kenton, Ohio, is a successful contractor and builder. He was born in Kenton, July 17, 1843, and is a son of James and Mary (Eaton) Scott, both natives of Pennsylvania. James Scott was of Scotch descent, and came to Hardin county, Ohio, in the spring of 1833, locating in Kenton. He also was a contractor and carpenter, and erected some of the first houses put up in the city of Kenton. He built up a good business, and became a prominent member of the community. Politically he was a Democrat; he died when about fifty-seven years of age. He was married in his native state, and he and his wife reared six sons and six daughters, of whom two sons and three daughters survive at the present time, John S. being the ninth child.

The early boyhood of John S. Scott was spent in Kenton, and when five years of age his father moved to a farm in Buck township, Hardin county, where John lived until fifteen years of age, attending the public schools, and then started in life for himself. He worked some time at the trade of carpenter, and in 1861 enlisted in Company B, Eighty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, later attaining the rank of sergeant. He served until the close of the war, about four years altogether. He reenlisted at Chattanooga, Tennessee, in the same company and regiment, and took part in most of the important battles of the struggle, in Virginia and along the Potomac, until after Gettysburg, when they were transferred to the Western Army. He was with Sherman at the capture of Atlanta and the march to the sea. Mr. Scott was first wounded in the right shoulder, with a minie ball, at the battle of Bull Run. He was again wounded in the forehead and left leg, at Chancellorsville, was taken prisoner and spent five months at Libby prison, returning to his regiment in October, 1863. He was present at the Grand Review at Washington, and was then ordered to Texas, but after proceeding as far as Louisville, returned home, arriving in Kenton July 29, 1865. Upon his return he worked twenty days and then had the ball removed from his shoulder. Since that time he has been engaged as carpenter, contractor and builder. He has erected more buildings in Kenton than any other three men engaged in the same occupation; he has built business blocks, dwellngs, churches, schoolhouses and other public buildings, and has conducted his business in a creditable manner. He is an able workman himself, and employs several men.

In 1867 Mr. Scott married Almira Bridge, a native of Union county, Ohio, who was reared in Buck township, Hardin county, daughter of Thomas Warner. Mr. Scott and his wife have one daughter, Susa, wife of George A. Wendt, of Kenton. Mr. Scott is a stanch Republican and takes an active interest in public affairs. He served four years as sheriff of Hardin county, also served as a member of the city council. He is a member of the Masons and the Knights of Pythias, also of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a lifelong resident of Hardin county, and has been actively identified with its interests. He is widely known throughout the community, and has the entire respect and confidence of his fellows.

WILLIAM POE.—Among the honored native sons of Hardin county who have witnessed and assisted in its development from the virgin wilds into one of the most progressive and prosperous sections of the fine old Western Reserve is William Poe, who was born in the township that is now his home and who is a member of one of the sterling pioneer families of this county, where his entire life thus far has been passed and where he has been identified with the great industries of agriculture and stock-growing from his youth, being now the owner of a well improved and valuable landed estate of three hundred and fifty acres, in Roundhead township. His life has been guided and governed by the strictest principles of integrity and honor, and thus he has not been denied the fullest measure of popular confidence and esteem. He is one of the well known and representative farmers of the county and is specially entitled to consideration in this history of Hardin county.

William Poe was born in Roundhead township, Hardin county, Ohio, on the 18th of December, 1837, and is a son of Andrew and Lavina (Zimmerman) Poe. Andrew Poe was born in Kentucky, in May, 1816, and was a child at the time of his parents' removal to Fayette county, Ohio, where he was reared to manhood, receiving such advantages as were offered in the primitive schools of the pioneer epoch. His marriage was solemnized in Ross county, and he was one of the early settlers of Roundhead township, Hardin county, where he became the owner of four hundred acres of heavily timbered land. He made a clearing in which to erect his little log house and then essayed the herculean task of reclaiming his land to cultivation. He was a man of indomitable energy and sterling character, and he eventually became one of the substantial farmers of the county, where his name is held in high regard by all who remember him as a venerable patriarch of this section, where he continued to reside until his death, in April, 1906, only a few weeks before he would have ninety years of age. His devoted wife and himself were both devout members of the Methodist Episcopal church. They became the parents of three sons and four daughters, of whom the subject of this review is the eldest; William Milton is a resident of Kansas; Ann M. is the wife of Hamilton Hill; Geneva is the widow of Daniel Carter; Samantha is the wife of James Smith; David; and Douglas.

William Poe was ushered into the world in the little pioneer home in the midst of the forests of Roundhead township, and his earliest labors were in connection with the arduous work of the farm. He assisted in clearing land and in other portions of the farm work, and to the pioneer schools of the locality and period he is indebted for his early educational training, which was limited, as a matter of course, but which has been supplemented by the lessons gained under the direction of that wisest of headmasters, experience. Mr. Poe has had no inclination to sever his allegiance to the great basic art of agriculture during the long intervening years, marked by "ceaseless toil and endeavor." He initiated his independent operations on eighty acres of land in his native township, establishing his home in the woods and reclaiming his land from the forest. Success of definite and generous order crowned his efforts and

he is now the owner of three hundred and fifty acres of well improved and most productive land, located in sections 4, 16 and 17, Roundhead township. He has given his attention to diversified agriculture and the raising of high-grade stock, and, well preserved in mental and physical powers, he still finds satisfaction in supervising the various departments of his farm work. He is a substantial, progressive and public-spirited citizen, has ever lent his aid in support of measures for the general good, and has contributed his quota to the industrial and civic upbuilding of this favored section of the Reserve. He is a stockholder in the Belle Center Bank and as a business man his ability is best indicated by the success which he has attained through his own well directed endeavors.

In politics Mr. Poe is found arrayed under the banner of the Democratic party but he has never sought the honors or emoluments of public office, though he has consented to serve as school director of his district. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Pleasant Hill, and he is a valued member of its board of trustees.

Mr. Poe has been twice married. His first wife was Miss Helen M. Buffenbarger, who was born in Auglaize county, this state, and whose death occurred on the 1st of May, 1898. They became the parents of five children, concerning whom the following brief data are entered: Florence, who was a successful school teacher when a young woman, is now the wife of James Patrick; Marquis is a successful farmer of Roundhead township and he also found requisition for service in the pedagogic profession; Ada N. is the wife of Frederick Davidson; Leota is the widow of Frank Tidd, of Roundhead township, where she still resides; and Vesta is the wife of Edward Turner. Mr. Poe married for his second wife Miss Pauline Stinson, daughter of John W. and Selina (Brinton) Stinson. She was born in Logan county, Ohio, on the 18th of October, 1856, and was about ten years of age at the time of her parents' removal to Hardin county, where she has since maintained her home, and where she has a wide circle of friends.

J. A. Grafmiller, a well-to-do farmer of Jackson township, Hardin county, owns a farm of two hundred and forty acres of well improved land, which has been in his possession since 1888. He was born in Crawford county, Ohio, in 1862, and is a son of Andrew Grafmiller, also a native of Crawford county, born in 1838, whose wife was born in 1840. He removed with his family to Hardin county, in 1869, first buying eighty acres and later adding to his holdings. In 1882 and 1884 he built a fine brick house; he served as township trustee. He and his wife are now residing in the state of Washington. Their children were: William A., Mary M. (Mrs. Gardner) and J. A. Andrew Grafmiller, is a son of Andrew and Siloam (Wizard) Grafmiller, both natives of Baden, Germany, who came to this county as early as 1834, and settled in Crawford county, Ohio. They were parents of children as follows: Andrew, Augustus (deceased), Christian (deceased), Jacob, Rudolph and Caroline (deceased).

J. A. Grafmiller was reared and educated in Crawford and Hardin counties, having come with his parents to the latter county in 1869. He

took up farming after completing his education, with what success may be seen. He is well known and highly esteemed in the community, and takes an active interest in public affairs. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

In 1885 Mr. Grafmiller married Sarah J., who was born August 22, 1863, in Goshen township Hardin county, Ohio, a daughter of James M. Baker. To this union have been born seven children, namely: Edna, Lydia, Matthew, Ollie M., Jessie, Ray and an infant.

J. N. Hensel, a progressive farmer of Blanchard township, where he owns eighty acres of well-tilled and valuable land was born in Washington township, Hardin county, Ohio, in 1865, and is a son of Adam and Thresa Hensel, both natives of Germany, whence they emigrated to this country in 1838. After spending two years in Columbus, Ohio, they located in Hardin county, which was at that time new country and the land was not cleared. Here Adam Hensel purchased eighty acres of land, to which he was soon after able to add another eighty. By untiring energy and economy he was afterward able to purchase another one hundred and sixty acres, all in Washington township. He afterward purchased eighty acres of land in Blanchard township, which is now the property of J. N.; he was thus at one time possessed of four hundred acres. Mr. Hensel was an earnest member of the Lutheran church. He was the father of children as follows: Kate, Louisa, Charles, John, J. N., George, Mary, William and three who died in infancy.

J. N. Hensel was educated in his native township, and has always followed farming. He has owned his present farm since 1891, and has been very successful. Mr. Hensel is an intelligent farmer, and looks carefully after his business interests. He stands well in the community, and is a public-spirited, useful citizen. He and his family are members of the German Lutheran church, and interested in all movements and causes for the general welfare.

In 1890 Mr. Hensel married Alvinsie, daughter of Charles Hill, a well-to-do farmer of Hardin county, and to this union have been born six children, namely: Charles, Dean, Catherine, Harry, Lucile and Helen. Mrs. Hensel is also a native of Washington township, born in 1871.

Benson M. Hopkins, a well known and distinctively popular citizen of the village of Alger is entitled to special credit for the success he has gained through his own indefatigable efforts, as he has been dependent upon his own resources from his boyhood days and has had his full share of the "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune," so far as they are ever directed against the one who thus fights the battle of life for himself.

Mr. Hopkins is a native of the old Buckeye state and here the major portion of his life thus far has been spent. He was born in Morgan county, Ohio, on the 15th of July, 1869, and is a son of James and Mary (Breeze) Hopkins. When but six years of age he was entrusted to the

care of others than his parents, and for several years thereafter he found his home an uncertain quantity, not only in location but in meriting the name. He received but meager educational advantages, but has learned well the lessons to be gained in the school of practical experience, and is known as a capable business man and as a citizen of sterling integrity of character. He devoted his attention principally to farm work until he had attained to the age of nineteen years, after which he was engaged in mining work for about two years. Thereafter he was in the employ of the C. S. & A. R. R. He worked for this company on its coal docks and also as "hostler" of a locomotive, turning his attention to any honest occupation that would afford him due financial returns for his efforts.

In 1903 Mr. Hopkins took up his residence in the village of Alger, Hardin county, where he has since maintained his home and where he is held in unqualified popular esteem. Soon after his arrival here he leased a portion of the fertile marsh land lying contiguous to the village and he put this into effective use in the raising of melons and a large variety of vegetables. He found a ready market for his products and built up a prosperous business, in which he has since continued, having recently released the land for a period of five years. As a market-gardener he has gained a high reputation for his discrimination and effective handling of the various details of his enterprse. He is the owner of a fine residence property on Front street, and also owns two full lots and two fractional lots in the Dunlap addition to the village. In politics Mr. Hopkins is a stanch supporter of the cause of the Republican party and both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Hopkins was united in marriage to Miss Rosetta Roberts, who was born and reared in Perry county, this state, and they have three children, whose names, with respective dates of birth, are here noted: Noble B., February 21, 1896; Charles A., February 28, 1903; and Dale, February 15, 1908.

Henry Conklin.—One of the most prominent of Hardin county's business men whose enterprise and sound judgment have not only promoted individual prosperity but have advanced the public welfare is mentioned Henry Conklin, the promoter and operator of the Mt. Victory electric light plant. Mr. Conklin was born in Jones county, Iowa, December 15, 1856. Samuel Conklin, his father, was born in Hardin county, becoming a laborer and farmer, and he moved from here to Marion county, Ohio, and from there to Iowa in 1855, but returned to Marion county during the infancy of his son Henry. He was a farmer there for some time, but finally sold his farm and with his family moved to Pulaski county, Indiana, but again he returned to Ohio, and settling in Mt. Victory he died here. His wife, Hannah, was a daughter of John Preston, a Marion county farmer, and their family numbered the following children: William, a farmer in Arenac county, Michigan; Riley, living in Mt. Victory; Mary Ellen, wife of Orr Pyers, also in Mt. Victory; Elmira, of this city; and Henry.

Henry Conklin after leaving school at the age of fifteen learned and followed for two years the carpenter's trade, later was engaged in the timber and lumber business, and in 1881 began the operation of a saw mill in connection with his lumbering. On the 15th of April, 1906, he completed what was then and has since remained the only electric plant in this vicinity, and this plant furnishes both the light and power for Mt. Victory and the surrounding country. This is one of the valued and important institutions of the city, and Mr. Conklin may well feel proud of what he has accomplished in the way of public improvement and the success he has achieved.

He married on the 2d of May, 1879, Sarah E. Peaver. She was born on the 16th of December, 1856, in Hardin county, a daughter of John and Sarah (Thomas) Peaver, honored pioneers of the county. Mrs. Conklin has the following brothers and sisters: George and James, both deceased; Jane, the wife of Ross Campbell, a carpenter living in Missouri; and Edith, also deceased. Five children have blessed the marriage union of Mr. and Mrs. Conklin: Charles, who married Jennie Seidel, and they are living in Goshen, Indiana; Samuel, at home with his parents; Harry Clyde, who married Daisy Callahan, and they are living in Mt. Victory; Nellie, wife of Elmer Shirk, and they have a son Francis Edmond, the only grandchild of Mr. and Mrs. Conklin; and Marie, in school. Mr. Conklin gives his political allegiance to the Democratic party.

John H. Culp.—A well known and highly esteemed resident of Mt. Victory, John H. Culp has spent a large part of his active life in Hardin county, contributing to its industrial interests both as an agriculturist and as a merchant, in the meantime gaining for himself the reputation of one who deserves the confidence and trust of his fellow men. A son of Jacob Culp, he was born, March 23, 1862, in Marion, Ohio. He is of German descent, and has inherited in a marked degree the habits of industry and thrift characteristic of his ancestors. His grandfather, J. Culp, was a baker by trade, and, with his wife, Katie Culp, lived to a good old age.

Born in Durlach, Germany, Jacob Culp was there brought up and educated. Following the tide of emigration across the Atlantic, he came to America in 1851, locating in Marion, Ohio, where he followed his trade of a stone mason for several years. Investing his money then in land, he was afterwards employed in tilling the soil until his death, in 1882, at the comparatively early age of fifty-six years. He married Katie Fulmer, who was born sixty-six years ago in Germany, which was the life-long home of her parents. She came from the Fatherland with her uncle, Lewis Fulmer, who settled in Marion, Ohio, and subsequently, during the Civil war, fought bravely in defence of his adopted country. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Culp, namely: Jacob, a farmer in Meade county, Kansas; Susan, wife of H. Muth, a gardener in Mansfield, Ohio; John H., with whom this sketch is chiefly concerned; Charles, of Prospect, Ohio; Mary, wife of George Muth, of Mansfield; William, a cabinet maker in Columbus; Frank, an attorney, residing in

Butler, Ohio; and Arthur, living with his mother on the old homestead.

Leaving school at the age of thirteen years, John H. Culp assisted his father in clearing the home farm for five years, after which he again attended school for two years. Subsequently, having earned some money by working three years in a bakery, he embarked in agricultural pursuits, renting land for two years in Hale township. He was then similarly employed in Dudley township for a year, from there going to Marion county, where he had the entire supervision of the Gill farm until 1899, a period of eight years. Mr. Culp then bought a farm on the pike, and there carried on general farming with success until 1907, when he sold at an advantage. Coming then to Mt. Victory, Hardin county, he turned his attention to an entirely different kind of business, buying a restaurant and a grocery, which he has since conducted in an able manner, at the same time having a good trade in hay, of which he is an extensive buyer and shipper.

Mr. Culp married, in 1886, Mary A. Self, who was born in Marion county, Ohio, in 1868, being a daughter of William Self, a venerable and highly respected farmer, now eighty-six years of age. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Culp, namely: Floyd, who married Bessie Moore, died March 29, 1908, aged twenty-three years, leaving one child, Mary Elizabeth Culp; Charley, born in 1887, living on the home farm; and John, born in 1892, attending school. In his political affiliations Mr. Culp is a steadfast Democrat, and is now serving as trustee of Hale township. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; of the Knights of Pythias; and of Mt. Victory Tent, K. O. T. M. Mrs. Culp belongs to the Daughters of Rebekah, and to the Pythian Sisters, and is an active member of the Church of God.

Christian Kraft, one of the worthy farmers of Washington township, Hardin county, Ohio, is of German descent and belongs to one of the pioneer families of the county. His grandfather, John Kraft, with his wife and son, William, came from Germany in 1833, landing at Baltimore, Maryland, and going direct to Wheeling, Virginia, to the home of their son, John. They traveled by post, the trip to Wheeling taking seventeen days. After one year's residence here, during which the mother died, John Kraft with his son William and William's wife came to Hardin county and during the remainder of their lives they were residents of this county.

The parents of Christian Kraft, William and Louisa (Stratton) Kraft, settled in Washington township in 1834, and here the father purchased two hundred acres of unimproved land, which in due time he converted into a beautiful farm. In coming from Wheeling, Virginia, which was two hundred miles away, the mother of Mr. Kraft related that the roads were so bad they were oftentimes obliged to get out of the wagon and walk, and in some places had to cut poles to lay across the road; it took two weeks to make the trip. For many years the home was the typical log house of the pioneer. They used an old horse mill on which they ground corn for meal, and also an old grater, like a horse-

radish grater, only very much larger. They had no stoves and did all their cooking in the fire-place. Bread was baked in kettles with long legs and heavy iron lids. These kettles were placed in the fire-place, the heavy iron lids were heated and put on and over the lids coals were also placed. In those days Indians were numerous and would come to the house and ask for something to eat. Sheep had to be penned up at night to protect them from the ravages of wolves, bears and other wild beasts. The nearest grist mill was forty miles away at West Liberty, Logan county, the road to which was mostly through the woods. The round trip to the mill took two weeks and sometimes the family would be without flour for several days before the father's return, during which time they would live on roasted potatoes served with butter, which the children thought delightful. There was no well on the place and water had to be carried from neighboring farms. Like all German people, William and Louisa Kraft were thrifty and economical and good loyal citizens of their adopted country. William Kraft died at his home in this county in 1850, but his wife, who was born in 1815, survived him until 1889.

Christian Kraft was born September 24, 1845, on his father's farm in Washington township, and here he was reared and here he has always lived. He is the owner of three tracts of choice land containing four hundred and twelve acres, under a high state of cultivation. He figures as one of the prominent men of the community, the offices of land appraiser and township treasurer having been held by him. In 1876, Mr. Kraft was married to Miss Louisa Hensel, who was born in Washington township, May 31, 1854, and to them have been given six children: John A., George W., L. M., Mary, Irwin and Marie.

David S. Tough is the present chairman of the board of trustees of Taylor Creek township and one of the representative farmers and business men of his community. He was born on the homestead on which he now lives on the 11th of March, 1870. David Tough, his father, born in Scotland in September of 1830, came to America at the age of twenty-four and was for seven years engaged in blacksmithing in Urbana, Ohio, coming then in 1862 to Hardin county, and locating on the tract that now forms a part of the old Tough homestead in Taylor Creek township. This little farm of fifty-six acres at the time of the purchase was covered with timber, but Mr. Tough in time cleared the tract, built his home and transformed the tract into a splendid farm. In the city of Springfield, Ohio, in 1861, David Tough was married to Miss Janet Cummings, who was born in Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1832, a daughter of James and Margaret (MacBeth) Cummings, the father a shipbuilder in Aberdeen. There was a son and a daughter born of that union, and the latter, Jessie, is the wife of William Harbert, a printer in Chicago, Illinois.

David S. Tough has spent his entire life on the homestead where he now lives, a splendid tract of one hundred and thirty-five acres, and he is engaged in general farming and stock raising. He is serving his second term as chairman of the board of trustees of Taylor Creek township, and he also served his township two terms as a constable. He is an active Republican worker in local politics.

In 1895 Mr. Tough was married to Amy Stout, who was born on the old Stout homestead in McDonald township, Hardin county, on the 24th of April, 1875, a daughter of Joseph and Mary (Bell) Stout. Joseph Stout also had his nativity on the homestead mentioned, his father, Daniel Stout, having come here from Pennsylvania. He married Barbara Zahllers, a member of another of the pioneer families of Hardin county. Both Mr. and Mrs. Stout are living, the former at the age of sixty-two and the latter at the age of fifty-nine. She is a daughter of Richard and Elizabeth (Bergert) Bell. Mr. and Mrs. Stout became the parents of seven children, and the brothers and sisters of Mrs. Tough are Elsie Elizabeth, the wife of Thomas Corwin, a merchant in Belle Center; Denny E., at home with his parents; Mary Agnes, the wife of George Dillon, a farmer at Roundhead; Anna Bell, the wife of Roy Liles, in McDonald township; Willard E., on the homestead with his parents; and Floyd Ivan, also with his parents. The four children of Mr. and Mrs. Tough are: Ethel, born in 1896; Mary, in 1897; Bessie, in 1898; and Agnes, in 1904. The eldest daughter, Ethel, at the age of twelve, passed successfully the examination which entitled her to free tuition in any high school in the state of Ohio. The family are members of the Presbyterian church at Belle Center.

William H. McGraw.—There are many fine farms in Hardin county, Ohio, that owe a great deal of their good condition to the owners, who have spent much time and effort to bring them up to the high standard maintained by farmers of the present day. Among the enterprising farmers of Hale township is William H. McGraw, who was born in Plain City, Ohio, March 28, 1867, and is a son of Patrick and Kate (McLaughlin) McGraw. Patrick McGraw is a native of Ireland, who has now reached the age of ninety years, and is living retired near Kenton. He came from Ireland when a young man and settled on a farm near Plain City, where he followed farming some years, and then came to the farm where he now resides. His wife, also a native of Ireland, who came to the United States when a girl, has now reached the venerable age of eighty-six years. They are members of the Catholic church at Summit. Besides William, he and his wife had the following children: Daniel, living at home on the farm; Lawrence, also at home; Maggie, wife of J. McGraw; Mary, married J. Connell, of Kenton, where he is a teamster; and John, living on a farm near Ashley, Ohio.

William H. McGraw received a good common school education and when he had reached the age of sixteen years he began assisting his father on the farm, which he continued until twenty-two years of age, when he worked for others until his marriage. He settled on the farm he now occupies in 1898, and has been since that time actively engaged in farming and stock raising. He has adopted the most modern methods and meets with a high degree of success. He is a Republican in political views, although he has never cared for public office, devoting himself closely to the interests of his farm.

In 1890 Mr. McGraw married Cordelia Allen, who was born in December, 1874, a daughter of Charles and Jane (Kelly) Allen. Charles

Allen, a retired farmer of Mt. Victory, has reached the age of sixty-eight years. His wife is sixty-five years of age. Mr. Allen is a veteran of the Civil war and is a son of Ethan Allen, who was one of the largest stock dealers in Fayette county, Ohio; the family of Mrs. McGraw came from Fayette to Hardin county in 1874 and settled in Hale township, where they lived on a farm many years; later Mr. Allen engaged in livery business at Mt. Victory for a time, but is now living retired. Mr. McGraw and his wife have been blessed with two children: Dorothea, born April 7, 1900, and Charles, born December 6, 1894.

James T. Porter, a retired farmer and stockman of Taylor Creek township, was born on the old homestead January 17, 1844, and is a son of Andrew and Rebecca (Dunlop) Porter. Andrew Porter's father located in Green county, Ohio, in 1804, and lived there the remainder of his life. He served in the war of 1812. His wife, Jane Porter, died in 1844.

Andrew Porter was a native of Kentucky, born May 11, 1800, and died October 6, 1867. He followed farming all his life and in 1832 settled on what became the family homestead in Taylor Creek township, where he took up one hundred and twenty-two acres of land. This farm was in the woods and Mr. Porter set out to improve his land and erected a log cabin for the family home. He spent the remainder of his life on this farm and became successful as a farmer. He was a member of the Disciples church. He was a strong Whig and held various township offices. He was married, September 29, 1830, to Rebecca Dunlop, who was born in Morgan county, Ohio, in 1805. Besides James T. Porter his parents had children as follows: Freeman, a farmer of Taylor Creek township; Mary Ann, wife of O. Howell, of Belle Center, Ohio; Jane, widow of J. Lowery, of Belle Center; and Susan, wife of G. C. Aldrich, of California.

The early years of James T. Porter were spent on a farm and he received his education in the district schools. At the age of seventeen years he enlisted in Company D, Eighty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, serving three months under Captain Riddle. In 1864 he reenlisted for three years and served under Generals Thomas and Howard. He participated in the battles of Franklin, Nashville and Springhill. He was mustered out in 1865, at Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio, and returned home. After the death of his father he carried on the farm for his mother and cared for her until her death, in 1886. His father had built the first brick house in Hardin county, manufacturing his own brick.

Mr. Porter and his brother bought the shares of the other heirs to the homestead and settled there in 1877. He has made a specialty of stock raising and often wintered as many as two hundred hogs for sale in the spring. For the past five years he has been retired from active work, but still lives on the farm. He has made all possible improvements and has been a most enterprising, progressive farmer. He has worked hard all his life until the last few years and met with gratifying success.

September 2, 1869, Mr. Porter married Sarah J. Kauffman, who was

born in Richland county, Ohio, September 1, 1849, daughter of John and Mary (Shaffner) Kauffman, the latter of whom died in 1907. Mrs. Kauffman was a member of St. Paul Methodist church and an active worker for the church and the Ladies' Aid Society. Mrs. Porter has two sisters,—Mary, wife of W. Moy, a farmer living north of Kenton, and Lydia, wife of George Stone, also a farmer. Mr. Porter and his wife became parents of children as follows: Chase, born July 23, 1870, a merchant of Richmond, married Madeline LaChance and they have two children, Bernard and Fred; Albert J., born November 28, 1871, a real estate dealer of Marion county, Ohio, married (first) Jennie Jeffers, by whom he had one child, Lois, and (second) Bernice Laughlin, by whom he had one child, Helen; Marshall, born June 11, 1874, an undertaker of Kenton, married Elizabeth Fisher and they have one child, Emma; William A., born in 1878, a farmer of Logan county, married Catherine Titus and they have two children, Ralph and Lulu; Mary I., born in 1881, married Harry Van Fleet, a dentist of Toledo, and they have two children, Ethel and Margaret; Charles E., born September 18, 1884, lives at home with his parents; Mina C., born October 10, 1887, lives at home; and Lydia, born February 9, 1890, is at home.

Mr. Porter and his wife are both members of the Presbyterian church of Belle Center. He is a member of the blue lodge of Masons in Belle Center, Lodge No. 348, and of the chapter of Kenton. Both he and his wife are members of the Eastern Star. He belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic post at Kenton. Politically Mr. Porter is a stanch Republican. He has served thirty years as member of the school board and is at present chairman of same. He served two terms as land appraiser and has also been delegate to political conventions. Mr. Porter is well known in the community where his entire life has been spent, and is highly esteemed.

Harvey Buckminster, who was for many years a resident of Kenton, Ohio, was a native of Vermont, born in 1800. When he was thirteen months old he was left an orphan and was adopted into the family of Stephen Strong, with whom he lived until twenty-seven years of age. He then entered the employ of a Mr. Smith, who hired him to drive a team over the mountains to Little Sandusky and defrayed the expenses of the trip. Mr. Buckminster worked one month for a doctor in the town and in December, 1827, engaged to work for a Mr. Chaffee, who conducted a hotel at Tymochtee (in an Indian reservation), caring for the stage horses, at four dollars per month and his board. While in this town Mr. Buckminster became acquainted with a Mr. Brown, from New Hampshire, who was the founder of Browntown, near Marseilles, and conducted a hotel in the new town. Mr. Buckminster left his position soon after and began working for Mr. Brown, about the time of his marriage. He married Miss Abigail Brown, his employer's daughter February 22, 1828, and in May of the same year he was employed by A. L. Hunt to drive a stage between Upper Sandusky and Bellefontaine, Ohio.

In 1839 Mr. Buckminster purchased a farm in Hardin county, Ohio,

near Grassy Point, and established a tavern, which his wife conducted, while he continued driving stage. About a year later he entered the employ of the North American Fur Company, purchasing furs through the northwestern part of Ohio, also traveling as far north as Detroit, Michigan, making his trips on horseback. During the thirteen years he was employed with this concern he paid out some $75,000 for furs, and became well known throughout the territory over which he traveled. He discontinued his tavern at Grassy Point in 1842 and purchased a farm on the old Sandusky road, where he erected a log tavern and he and his wife conducted same with success and profit for a period of some sixteen years.

About 1858 Mr. Buckminster rented his farm and tavern and retired from active life, settling in the town of Kenton. He had worked hard all his life and had been successful through his own efforts, ably seconded by his wife, and they were highly respected wherever they were known. They endured the hardships common to pioneer and frontier life, and had well earned the rest they were ready to enjoy. Mrs. Buckminster died in 1868 and the following year Mr. Buckminster married Miss Ellen McConaha, of West Liberty, Ohio, who was left an orphan in early childhood. By his first wife Mr. Buckminster had three children, namely: Jane, Louisa and Serena. By his second marriage he had one daughter, Amelia, wife of J. A. Morrison, of Kenton. Mr. Buckminster died in January, 1894, survived by his widow, who passed away in 1901. He was greatly interested in the progress and development of the county and was always ready to do his share in furthering any good cause. Politically he was a stanch Republican and he attended the Episcopal church, although he never became a member. He became a well-known citizen of Kenton, and was able to relate many interesting experiences of pioneer days. He had witnessed great changes in his lifetime. Coming to Ohio when the settlers were scatterd and the roads poor and but little traveled, he lived to see many wonderful improvements and witnessed the gradual upbuilding and growth of towns and settlements where he had first seen their sites covered with timber.

Thomas Calvin Ferguson.—In the death of Thomas Calvin Ferguson, late of Kenton, Ohio, the entire community felt bereaved of a most beloved and revered friend and benefactor. Mr. Ferguson had been a teacher in Kenton schools for a period of thirty-four years, and during this time has figured more prominently than any other man in moulding citizenship and public sentiment in the city for two generations. He taught the fathers of many of the boys and girls who were his pupils up to the time of his death. Professor Ferguson came of a family who had been interested in education and culture for generations and inherited a quiet, studious, character and an ambition to know all a man could learn of science, art, and the highest forms of learning.

Professor Thomas C. Ferguson was born on a farm near Tiffin, in Seneca county, Ohio, June 8, 1851, one of the five sons of William and Martha Chamberlain (Tittle) Ferguson. William Ferguson was a son of Thomas Ferguson, who was of Scotch descent, and settled in West-

moreland county, Pennsylvania, about 1800. Thomas was a farmer by occupation and a man with a high order of culture and learning. Some of the letters he wrote to his children are still preserved in the family and show that he was a man of superior education. He was an elder in the Presbyterian church, owned a large farm, and was highly respected by his associates. He married Elizabeth Marshall, who died in middle life, and but little is known of her early life. Their children were all given good educations and all became prominent business men of Pittsburg and Allegheny, except William.

William Ferguson was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, in March, 1820, and like his father, was a successful farmer. He was a close student and was informed far above the average farmer of his day. He moved with his wife's people to Seneca county, Ohio, in 1845. His wife was born also in Westmoreland county, in 1821, eldest daughter of Jonathan and Susan Beatty Tittle. She possessed a good education and was a woman of culture and refinement. William Ferguson and his wife lived together fifty-two years, until his death, in March, 1896, at the age of seventy-six years. His widow survived him and died in March, 1905, at the age of eighty-four years. They had five sons, of whom two died in infancy. The others were: Marshal Beatty, the eldest, Thomas Calvin, the second and William Wilson, the youngest. Marshal Beatty was a graduate of Wooster University, and would have graduated with high honors from Princeton Theological Seminary, but for his sudden death, during the spring before graduation, when he was thirty years old. His death was caused as the result of an accident. William Wilson Ferguson was a graduate of Heidelburg University of Tiffin and of the Iron City Business College, of Pittsburg. He was a successful druggist in Red Cloud, Nebraska, and died at his father's farm in Seneca county, Ohio, in 1887, at the age of thirty-two years, from the effects of asthma. He left a wife but no children.

Professor Thomas C. Ferguson was educated in Heidelburg University, of Tiffin, and after leaving that institution spent the remainder of his life as a public instructor. In 1873 Professor Ferguson was chosen superintendent of the public schools at Dunkirk, Ohio, and in 1875 he came to Kenton to accept a position as teacher of Grade No. 9 in the Old Central building, which burned more than a decade ago, and when this grade was merged with the high school, becoming the freshman year, Mr. Ferguson was given charge of this division as a member of the high school faculty. He became teacher of mathematics, with history, political science and languages as side branches when his services were necessary.

Some idea of the early ambition of Mr. Ferguson may be understood from the fact that when a child of three years he often cried until he was allowed to toddle with his older brother to the nearby country school, really beginning his education at that age. He was always a close student and had a burning desire to acquire knowledge. He was a broad and skillful teacher of mathematics, in which branch he especially excelled, and was considered a very capable instructor in literature and history. An active and tireless teacher as well as student, he lived

a life of service and self-sacrifice, of which his willing spirit and love of his work were the keynote. After his long hours of work he would spend hours in study and research and seemed never to rest. He was well known throughout the state through institute and round-table work, and the good he accomplished will stand as a monument in the character, mind and heart of each one of his students. His life was an inspiration and he had the faculty of investing each subject on which he spoke with peculiar interest. His position of prominence and respect did not come from a love of display or of being in the public mind, as he was of a quiet, retiring nature, and rather introspective, though he had many warm friends and was an enthusiastic speaker on any subject that interested him. He was beloved throughout the community in which he spent many years, because of his rare mind and wonderful powers of oratory. He had a never-tiring love of young people, and was never happier than in his work among them. He was ever patient and cheerful, and had high ideals of his duty as an instructor of the bright minds of his interesting pupils, who were just budding into manhood and womanhood.

We quote from the Kenton *Democrat* of November 25, 1909: "Professor Ferguson was a brilliant man, a deep student, a model teacher and a Christian gentleman. He was an orator, and no tongue was more eloquent than his. No more beautiful word pictures, enriched by gems of literature, deep thought and long experience, have ever been heard in this city, than those from the silver tongue of the white-haired orator."

The death of Professor Ferguson occurred November 17, 1909, at Kenton, Ohio. He had for some time been in a state of nervous collapse due to stomach trouble and overwork and his family were much worried about his health, but he loved his work and would not give up while he was able to carry it on. The immediate cause of his sudden death was brought about by the receipt on that evening of an evil anonymous letter, attacking him in a very unmerited manner. It is supposed that, as was his custom when worried or grieved over anything he had gone for a long walk, and since a heavy cold storm came on that night, he probably was overtaken with weakness and illness after walking to his farm about a mile and a half from Kenton. He was found lying under a tree and his spirit had passed to its reward with none by to witness its departure. He was a man of delicacy of feeling and sensitive nature and with his failing health this attack was unbearable. He died of exposure and a broken heart.

He was an elder in the first Presbyterian church and a member of the Masonic Order, having served as Worshipful Master. He was a deep student of the Bible and was greatly revered for his help in church work. He prepared and delivered a number of instructive lectures from the bible for prayer meetings, brotherhood meetings and other church meetings. In political views he was a Republican, as was his father before him, but like him, did not care for public office.

August 14, 1873, Mr. Ferguson married Augusta M. Phillips, at Patterson, Ohio. She was the youngest daughter of G. T. Phillips, formerly of New Philadelphia, and her mother was Miranda Chrisman.

Her father was a cultured and educated man and spoke several languages.. He was ninety years of age at the time of his death, in September, 1896. He was from New York and his brother Edwin Phillips was a well known artist in New York City in the early part of the nineteenth century. The family contained many gifted musicians. The children born to Mr. Ferguson were as follows: Nellie F., born in Dunkirk, Ohio, November 13, 1874, graduated from high school and married Dr. William C. Snodgrass, a physician of Kenton; Martha Louise, born November 26, 1876, graduated from high school, married Frank J. Baker, a shoe merchant of Portsmouth, Ohio; Grace C., born at Kenton, September 2, 1878, graduate of high school and of a business college of Toledo, Ohio, is a stenographer and book-keeper for Kenton Hardware Company; Kate C., born September 21, 1880, died March 12, 1891; John Beatty, born February 5, 1886, unmarried, graduated from high school and from an architectural training school of Ada, Ohio, is an architect for the Northwestern Terra Cotta Company of Chicago; Sarah Agnes, born September 22, 1889, is a high school graduate; Edwin Phillips, born November 31, 1890, is in his senior year in high school.

D. L. Fryer, former mayor of Dunkirk, and now a justice of the peace at Dunkirk, is one of the most popular and highly respected citizens of that town. He was born in Carrollton, Carroll county, Ohio, in 1844, and is a son of Robert and Esther (Green) Fryer. Robert was a son of David Fryer, who was a soldier in Washington's Army during the Revolution, and was at Valley Forge, as was also Mrs. Fryer's father, Abram Green. Robert Fryer and his wife were both natives of Chester county, Pennsylvania, and both of Quaker descent. They were parents of four children, namely: John, D. L., Rachel and Lizzie. John served in the Civil war, in the same regiment as his brother, and took part in the same campaign.

D. L. Fryer was reared on a farm and attended the local schools; he was an earnest and persevering student, and became fitted for teaching, which profession he followed with marked success nineteen years, seventeen years of which he was school superintendent. In October, 1861, Mr. Fryer followed the call of his country, and joined the Eightieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, as a private. After serving his enlistment term of three years, he reenlisted in 1864, was promoted to the rank of first sergeant, and discharged with this rank in 1865. Thus, he spent nearly four of his best years in his country's service, and during this time never received a wound or encountered a serious accident. He had left teaching to go to the front, and upon his return he resumed his work. In 1880 Mr. Fryer located in Dunkirk, where he served as mayor from 1888 until 1896. About the same time he was elected to the office of justice of the peace, which he has since filled with satisfaction to all. For about eight years he was notary public; in connection with his present office Mr. Fryer has been for twenty years engaged in real estate and insurance business, and for some thirty years past has followed the vocation of auctioneer. He is well known throughout the

community, and recognized as an enterprising, progressive man of affairs. He is actively interested in local public affairs, and a patriotic, useful citizen.

Mr. Fryer is a member of Dunkirk Lodge No. 549, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Ada Chapter and Kenton Commandery: he also belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is now Commander of Post No. 102, Grand Army of the Republic, which office he has already held four terms.

In 1860 Mr. Fryer married Maggie Dunlap, and they had no children. Mrs. Fryer died in 1896.

JOHN H. RADER is a native of Kenton, Ohio, born in 1857 and now resides in Kenton, although he has spent most of his life in farming. He is a son of Michael and Eve (Rader) Rader, the former born in Hessen, Germany, in 1816, and the latter born in Storfritz, Germany, in 1822. Michael Rader emigrated to the United States about 1848 and settled in Hardin county, Ohio. He had learned the trade of woodworker and followed it for several years, but later went to work for a farmer of Hardin county, remaining three years at this occupation. He then returned to his native country and spent a year there. Returning to the United States, he landed at New Orleans, came up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to Cincinnati, from which city he walked to Kenton. Three years later he again returned to Germany for another year, and returning to the United States landed at Baltimore, where he met and married Miss Eve Rader. They located in Hardin county and began housekeeping first in an old schoolhouse, remaining in this until Mr. Rader bought some land and erected a small house, into which they moved. In 1862, Mr. Rader began farming on his own account, renting land for several years, and in 1871 he purchased fifty acres of land in Dudley township, where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. Rader died February 13, 1886, and his wife died September 3, 1876.

The boyhood of John H. Rader was spent on a farm and he acquired a very good education in the public schools. When old enough to work he became interested in farming, and successfully followed this line of work until about fifteen years ago, when he gave up active work, although he still looks after his place. He lives in the town of Kenton, where he has a very pleasant home. Mr. Rader was a most enterprising and industrious farmer and became one of the prosperous and representative citizens of the county. He is a level-headed and straightforward business man, whose honesty and integrity have never been questioned. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias of Kenton, and is well known in the community. Although Mr. Rader favors the principles of the Republican party, in local affairs he casts his vote for the man he considers best qualified for any given office.

In 1876 Mr. Rader married Minerva, daughter of William and Mary Ann (Roby) Williams. Mr. Williams was born in Virginia, in 1806 and his wife was born in Ohio, in 1819. When he was about six months old his parents brought him to Ohio and located in Columbus,

where he grew to maturity. He removed to Hardin county about 1831, and there worked at his trade of harness maker and also taught school. Mrs. Williams removed to Hardin county with her parents in 1832, and the family settled on a farm east of Kenton, where her parents spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. Williams and his wife were married in 1849.

Damos Kahler represents one of the pioneer families of Hardin county, and their name figures prominently on the pages of the history of Washington township. John Kahler, his paternal grandfather, born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1778, emigrated to the United States in 1834, and in the same year entered forty acres of government land in Washington township, Hardin county, while two years afterward, in 1836, he brought his family here. His wife before marriage was Martha Shively, and they had three children: Ludwig, John G. and one who died when young.

John G. Kahler, born April 26, 1821, in Wurtemburg, Germany, came with his father to the United States, and reaching man's estate he purchased land at different times until he accumulated six hundred and forty acres, which was afterward sold and willed to his heirs at different times and with the exception of forty acres the property is still in the possession of his children. John G. Kahler was a worthy citizen of his adopted country and an industrious and successful agriculturist of Hardin county. He served Washington township as treasurer for ten years. He was confirmed in the German Lutheran church and continued one of the members of that demonination until finally uniting with the Methodist Episcopal church, afterward living and dying in that faith. He married Miss Eve M. Markley on December 28, 1846, and nine children were born to them, namely: two who died in infancy, Damos, William, Simon, Mary (deceased), Frank, Emma (deceased) and Joseph. John G. Kahler, the father, died on the 18th of February, 1908, when eighty-seven years of age, and his wife died on the 19th of October, 1905, when seventy-six years of age. Their old family Bible shows with what earnest care and deep research the book was read and studied, and its many markings also show their familiarity with the Word of God. This Bible is one of Martin Luther's translations, and dates back to 1585.

Damos Kahler was born in Hancock county, Ohio, January 11, 1850, and was three years of age when his parents moved to what is now Dola in Washington township. On the 18th of December, 1876, he moved to his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres of valuable farming land, all under a high state of cultivation and his buildings are commodious and modern. He has served his township as an assessor and school director, and is one of the influential residents of Washington township. He married Miss Helmena, a daughter of Christian and Christena Heroe, December 6, 1876, and they have had two children, Olive M. and Edward C., but the son died on the 7th of September, 1884. The daughter is now the wife of W. W. Stump. Mr. Kahler and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Dunkirk, and he has served his church as a steward and trustee.

Nelson Roby.—Among the venerable and highly respected residents of Kenton is Nelson Roby, who served his country as a soldier in her time of need, and was for many years busily engaged in promoting the agricultural interests of Hardin county, carrying on general farming. A native of Ohio, he was born, November 14, 1827, in Madison county, two miles from Pleasant Valley, where his father, Henry Roby, was a pioneer settler.

Henry Roby was born and bred in Virginia. Following the march of civilization westward when young, he settled in Madison county, Ohio, where he followed his trade of gun smith until 1831. In that year he came with his family to Hardin county, making the removal with teams. The country roundabout was then in its primeval wildness, the log cabin then serving as a Court House being surrounded by forest trees, the Square not having beeen cleared. He bought forty acres of land lying three miles east of Kenton, and moved, with his family into the log cabin standing in the clearing. He began the improvement of a homestead, and continued his pioneer work until his death, at the age of sixty-eight years, about 1839. His widow, was left with four children to care for. But a small part of the forty acres purchased had then been cleared. All of the children had to labor hard in helping care for the land, while she, in addition to her other duties, raised sheep and flax, and carded, spun and wove the material in which she clothed her family. She was a most capable woman, and kept her family together until each of the children became self supporting.

The oldest child of his parents, Nelson Roby took largely upon himself the care of the home farm, remaining with his mother until his marriage, when he rented land, and began farming for himself. Enlisting in 1864, in Company B, One Hundred and Seventy-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, he went to Nashville, Tennessee, with his regiment, and after taking a part in the engagement at that place was engaged in guarding the city, being on patrol duty until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged from the service, and returned home. Mr. Roby was subsequently engaged in tilling the soil until 1904, when he sold his farm, and came to Kenton, where he has since lived retired from active pursuits.

Mr. Roby married, in his twenty-second year, Mary Surgeson, who was born in Ohio, a daughter of Jacob Surgeson. She died in 1901, leaving seven children, namely: Urania, Scott, Susan, John, Edward, Charles and Minnie. Mr. Roby is a member of Cantwell Post, G. A. R., and belongs to the Fairview Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mrs. Roby was also a member.

Henry W. Eibling, of Dola, Ohio, is a representative of an old and well-known family of Hardin county. Mr. Eibling's grandfather, Charles Eibling, was born in Germany, from whence, in 1834, he came to the United States and settled in Richland township, Marion county, Ohio, where he bought forty acres of land from the Government. Subsequently, he moved to Van Wert county, this state, and purchased two hundred and fifteen acres, which he owned at the time of his death. He died in

1864, at the age of fifty-nine years. His first wife, whom he married in the old country and who came with him to America, died in Marion county, and in 1848 he married Miss Rachel Meyle, who had come here from Germany two years previous to that time, and who survived him until 1900, when she died at the age of seventy-six years. His children by his first wife were Charles, Godlieb, Frederick, Rachel, Minnie and Christine; Charles and Frederick are deceased. The children of the second marriage also number six: C. T., Albert, John, Mary, Caroline, Matilda, of whom two, Albert and Mary, are deceased.

C. T. Eibling, eldest child of this second union, was born in Richland township, Marion county, in 1849; and in 1860 accompanied the family on their removal to Van Wert county, where he grew up and completed his education. He followed farming, saw-milling and threshing alternately in their seasons for a number of years, and in the mean time, in 1868, came to Hardin county. Here, in Washington township, in 1882, he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of cleared land, to the cultivation and improvement of which he devoted his energies, and where he has since lived. In 1869 he married Miss Elizabeth Orth, who was born in Washington township, this county, in 1851, daughter of George and Martha M. Orth, and their union was blessed in the birth of seven children, five of whom are living, namely; Henry W., Clara, Emma, Otto and Louis.

Henry W. Eibling dates his birth in Washington township, in 1871. He was reared on his father's farm, and his education, begun in the common schools, has been carried forward in the broad school of experience. He followed farming until 1902, when he turned his attention to railroading. Two years, however, sufficed for that line of work, and on February 15, 1904, he became a Rural Free Delivery mail carrier, having previously to that time passed a rigid examination, in a class of seven, and received a per cent of ninety-nine.

Mr. Eibling has been twice married. His first wife, Hattie Beard, whom he married in 1896, died in May 1902, leaving him with one son, Roscoe W. In 1904 he married Miss Sarah Stanyer, a native of Canada, and two children have been born of this union—Harold H. and Willis M. Previous to her marriage, Mrs. Eibling was a nurse. She is a graduate of the Lima (O.) Training School, with the class of 1898, and has had considerable hospital experience. They reside in Dola, where they have a comfortable and attractive home, and are held in high esteem. Mr. Elbling at one time served as township assessor. Fraternally, he is an Odd Fellow.

Professor Samuel P. Axline, a man of broad culture and high mental attainments, has the distinction of being, in point of service, one of the oldest members of the faculty of the Ohio Northern University, with which he has been connected for twenty-seven years, for the past twenty-two years having been dean of its law department. A son of the Rev. P. H. Axline, he was born, March 31, 1849, in Muskingum county, Ohio.

Born and reared in Muskingum county, Ohio, P. H. Axline became

widely known throughout many parts of the state as an active teacher and preacher in the Christian church. He spent a full half century of his three score and ten years of earthly life in his religious work, at one time being located in Hardin county. He was of German ancestry on the paternal side, and inherited to a marked degree the tireless industry and sturdy integrity of his forefathers. He married Eleanor Lyle, of Muskingum county, the daughter of a pioneer settler, and she, too, attained the age of seventy years. Of their seven children, four sons and three daughters, all grew to years of maturity and five are now living, Samuel P. being the fourth child and third son.

Being fitted for a teacher in the public schools, Samuel P. Axline taught in Licking county for a time, beginning when sixteen years of age, and afterwards learned the potter's trade, which he followed seven years. About 1876 he began reading law in Missouri, afterwards continuing its study in Illinois and completing his law studies in Kentucky. For nearly fourteen years he was engaged in newspaper work, being located in Illinois, Kentucky and Ohio. Coming to Ada in 1882, Mr. Axline taught for five years in the Ohio Northern University, and then assumed his present position in its law department, of which he has been dean for the past twenty-two years, as above stated. The Professor is a close student, and has received the degrees of LL. D., LL. B. and of A. M., to all of which he is justly entitled on account of his superior scholarship. Politically he is active in the ranks of the Republican party, and fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Pythias and to the Woodmen of the World.

Professor Axline was united in marriage with Ellen F. Monroe, a daughter of James and Sarah Monroe, of Portage county, Ohio. They have no children living.

John Lace Collins, one of the most prominent farmers of Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born on the old homestead of his parents March 21, 1846. He is a son of James and Elizabeth (Hillinger) Collins, the former of whom died in 1861 and the latter in March, 1889. The children of James Collins and his wife were as follows: John L.; Thomas Taylor, a farmer of Missouri; Mary, widow of Andrew Sitron; Sally, wife of John Refer, a farmer; and Eliza, wife of Clark Ansley. Mr. Collins moved to Hardin county with his brother and widowed mother in 1828 and purchased land. This land was afterward owned by Ira C. Richards. Mr. Collins died April 26, 1861, at the age of fifty-two years.

John L. Collins received a good common-school education, and as his father died when he was a young man he became the mainstay of the family, taking great responsibilities on his young shoulders. His older brother enlisted and served some time in the Union army, leaving John in charge of affairs at home. He remained with his mother and the rest of the family until he was thirty years of age and then married and located on a neighboring farm. A year later he returned to the home farm, where he has lived ever since. There are one hundred and fifty acres of land in the farm, and the handsome house built in 1905 is one

of the most modern and comfortable in the county. The old frame house has been moved to the rear of the new one. Mr. Collins has made all possible improvements on the farm and keeps everything in first-class condition. He is a man of more than usual intelligence and ability, and has been very successful in his operations. He makes a specialty of stock raising, though since 1902 he has been practically retired from active life.

Mr. Collins married Alice Chamberlin, who died in 1889, at the age of thirty-six years. She was born in Buck township, and was a daughter of Cornelius and Katie (Quinn) Chamberlin, the former of whom died in 1898. Cornelius Chamberlin was born in the state of New York on March 30, 1825, and was a son of David and Hannah (Bridge) Chamberlin. His grandfather was an officer in the Revolutionary war. David Chamberlin and his wife settled in Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, in 1837; they purchased two hundred acres of land, but lost it on account of the invalidity of their title. He died in November, 1838, and his widow died in May, 1865. Cornelius Chamberlin was married in 1846 to Catherine Irwin, who was born October 20, 1828, a daughter of Michael and Mary Irwin. Cornelius Chamberlin enlisted in 1864 in Company B, One Hundred and Eighty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under General Thomas. Mr. Chamberlin and his wife had children as follows: Clary, wife of Wilk Brisban; William, a merchant of Kenton; Charles, a laborer of Kenton; Douglas, of Kenton; Martin, also of Kenton; John, a farmer; Harry, a farmer; and Alice, who became Mrs. Collins. Mrs. Collins was a member of the Methodist church.

To Mr. Collins and his wife were born children as follows: Myrtle, born in 1874, married Lewis Fisher, who manages Mr. Collins' farm, and they have had three children, Alonzo (sixteen), Ella (fifteen), and Clara (seven), besides Bryan, deceased; Clare, born in 1876, married Oscar Robinson, a merchant, and they have one child, Ona; James, now twenty-six years of age; and Roy, aged twenty. All these children have received a fair education and are a credit to their parents.

Manley Allen Deerwester, prominent stock breeder of Taylor Creek township, Hardin county, Ohio, was born on the farm he now occupies January 3, 1876. He is well known for the full-blood Poland China hogs he has bred, and in this connection is recognized all over the state as one of its most enterprising stock dealers. Mr. Deerwester is a son of John and Sarah Jane (Gardner) Deerwester. John Deerwester was a son of George Deerwester, a native of the state of New York, born October 7, 1815. He married on March 8, 1842, Rebecca Lewis, who was born June 17, 1825, in Delaware. George Deerwester moved with his family to Hamilton county, during its early history, where he followed farming for some years. His grandson relates that at first a blanket served as a door to his cabin, and one day, when the father was away from home a bear entered the home; the mother was much frightened and rushed to the loft with her children, but the bear soon disappeared. About 1850 George Deerwester located in Logan county, remaining there until 1877, when he settled in Paulding county, where

the remainder of his life was spent. His widow survived until 1908, when she passed away, at the age of eighty-four years.

John Deerwester was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, October 17, 1843. He received his education in the public schools, and when old enough began to assist with the work on his father's farm. He received a good education and made the most of his opportunities to acquire learning and culture. In 1861 he enlisted in Company D, Thirteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served three years in the Army of the Potomac. At the battle of Stone River the flag became entangled in some bushes, and in trying to recover it Mr. Deerwester was wounded in the thigh and shoulder, being hurt twice in this one engagement. During another engagement he received a saber thrust and was carried off the field on the very cold New Year Day of 1862, by his friend and comrade, Manuel Dunson. He was truly grateful to his friend, and promised to name his first son for Mr. Dunson, this first son being Manley Deerwester, whose name heads this sketch.

After being mustered out of service, John Deerwester returned to Ohio and began the study of medicine in Dayton. Later he located in Taylor township, Hardin county, where he bought a farm of sixty-one acres on the old Sandusky road. His neighbors here were the Corwins and the Vassars. Mr. Deerwester became known as the most extensive breeder of fine hogs in his section of the state, beginning the enterprise in 1878. He was the originator of the famous "Tom Corwin" herd of Poland China hogs, which enterprise is now carried on by his son. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and also belonged to the G. A. R. Post at Kenton; to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Ridgeway; and to the Knights of the Golden Eagle, Castle No. 62, of Big Spring, Ohio. Politically he was a Democrat and served as justice of the peace for two terms.

On October 24, 1867, John Deerwester married Sarah Jane Gardner, a daughter of Freeman Gardner, who died in 1909, at the age of eighty-five years. Mr. Gardner, who was a native of Pennsylvania, became one of the pioneers of Hardin county, Ohio, and married Joan Jennings, who survives him and has now reached the age of eighty-four years. Their daughter, Sarah Jane, was born July 30, 1847, and died September 22, 1903. Mr. Deerwester died December 18, 1903. He and his wife had children as follows: Manley A.; Minnie, wife of William Hisel, of Taylor Creek township; Eva, wife of Dennis Iams, of Union county; Carrie, wife of Charles Titus, of Logan county; Laura, wife of Harley Corwin, of Hardin county; Adda, wife of Charles Basley, of Logan county; Lizzie, wife of Roy McKinley, of Logan county.

After receiving a fair education in the district school Manley A. Deerwester turned his attention to farming and stock raising, and has followed these industries with unusual success ever since. After the death of his parents he purchased the shares of the other heirs and now has one of the most modern and comfortable homes in Hardin county. He has one hundred and eight acres of land, on which all improvements have been made. The old log house is still standing and is in a good state of preservation. Mr. Deerwester conducts two sales each year,

in October and February, of high bred Poland China hogs. These sales are patronized by people from all over the state and from other states, and are doing a large part towards raising the standard of breeds in Ohio. Mr. Deerwester's renowned hog known as "Impudent" is a son of the highest priced hog in the world and weighs seven hundred pounds. Another, "Gabriel's Perfection," is a double Ohio State fair winner. "Majestic Perfection" weighs nine hundred pounds. Mr. Deerwester is very successful in this enterprise and is known as one of the leaders in his line. In the year of 1908 he was elected state vice president of the National Poland China Record Company of Ohio, and has lately been elected one of the directors of the American Poland China Record Company of Chicago.

In 1898 Mr. Deerwester married Mary Bell Baker, of Buck township, Hardin county, a daughter of Emanuel and Anna (Born) Baker. Emanuel Baker and his wife are now living retired from active life in Kenton, Ohio; both are sixty-seven years of age, his birth occurring on 24th of October and hers on the 16th of March. He is a son of George and Mary Kahler Baker, natives of Pennsylvania. Mrs. Baker is a native of Berne, Switzerland, daughter of Jacob and Amelia (Miller) Born, and she came with her parents to America at the age of nine years and spent her ninth birthday on the ocean. Besides Mrs. Deerwester, Mr. Baker and his wife had three other daughters, namely: Adda, wife of Silas Hatcher, of DeGraf, Ohio; Grace, widow of Ralph Stittsworth; and Elida, widow of Philip Strahm. A son, Willie, is deceased. Mr. Baker enlisted in 1861 for three years' service in the Civil war. He enlisted from West Liberty, Ohio, and served the entire time, receiving his discharge in 1865. Mr. Deerwester and his wife have children as follows: Anna B., born May 12, 1900; Gertrude Rachel, born October 8, 1902; Thelma Grace, born February 28, 1904; Oran Gardner, born May 21, 1905; and Wilbert Allen, born April 29, 1907.

Mr. Deerwester belongs to the Knights of the Golden Eagle and to the Modern Woodmen of America, at Big Springs, Ohio. Politically he is a Democrat and an active worker in the interests of his party. He has been twice elected to the office of township clerk, receiving his second election in 1909, and is thus the present incumbent of the office.

Benjamin F. Cessna, M. D., a retired physician of Kenton, Ohio, has been identified with Hardin county since he was seven years old, and his useful life has made its impression here.

Dr. Cessna was born in Cumberland Valley, near Bedford Springs, Pennsylvania, January 27, 1826. His father and grandfather, both named Jonathan Cessna, were natives of Pennsylvania, his father having been born near Bedford Springs April 1, 1789. The latter came with his family to Hardin county, Ohio, in 1833, landing here on the third of May, and here he spent the rest of his life, and died at the age of eighty years. He was an influential man in the pioneer community. For twelve years he served as associate judge.

Benjamin Cessna grew up with the energies and ambitions of the great West and soon mastered the learning of the local schools within

his reach. Like many another young American he then became a school master; but his thirst for knowledge was not yet satisfied. In 1846 he entered the Ohio Wesleyan University from which he was later graduated and later still received Master's degree. He completed a medical course in the University of Michigan, receiving his diploma in 1852. After six years of successful practice the young physician entered the Jefferson Medical School at Philadelphia and received his degree from that institution in 1858.

In 1855 Dr. Cessna began the practice of medicine in Van Wert, Ohio, and with the exception of the time spent in professional study, he continued his professional career in Van Wert until 1876.

In his profession and also in his investments he was successful, the passing years bringing him as a result of his well directed efforts not only comfort and plenty but also a competency from which he has drawn liberally and from time to time has made gifts to numerous worthy causes. He was elected a trustee of the Ohio Wesleyan University. He has deeded to the Ohio Wesleyan University property sufficient to provide for a professorship. The income of the property goes to the University and provides for the perpetual maintenance of a chair of English language and literature, which bears his name in the college. Dr. Cessna is the second graduate of the college thus to provide for the endowment of a chair. Also he has given much to various charities. On retiring from the practice of medicine in 1876, he came to Kenton, conducting his farms near this city, where he has since made his home. In the meantime he has traveled extensively. In 1884 he toured Europe and in 1902 he went to Palestine and visited the different countries on the Mediterranean sea. Dr. Cessna was in Egypt and went up the Nile. He also visited Greece.

Dr. Cessna has been twice married, first in 1853, and again in 1876. By his first marriage Dr. Cessna had two daughters, Ida and Kate. The former died some years ago in Buffalo, New York, and the latter is at present living in Nebraska. By his second marriage he had one daughter, Marion, who died a few years ago in Milan, Italy, where she had gone to study music. At present Dr. Cessna is a widower. He is a Royal Arch Mason and a member of the Alumni Association of the University of Michigan.

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